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LETTERS

FROM A
YOUNG PAINTER
A B R O A D
TO HIS
F R I E N D S
I N

E N G L A N D.

William Russell.

Adorned with COPPER PLATES.

*Non liber ut fieret, sed uti sua cuique daretur
Littera, propositum curaue nostra fuit.*

*Da veniam scriptis, quorum non gloria nobis
Causa, sed utilitas officiumque fuit.*

QVID. Epist. ex Ponto III. 9.

VOL. I.

The SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N:

Printed for W. RUSSELL, at *Horace's Head* without
Temple-Bar. MDCCL.

LETTERS

FROM A

YOUNG PAINTER

TO HIS FRIENDS

AND A LADY





T O
THOSE WORTHY
GENTLEMEN,
THE KIND AND GENEROUS
ENCOURAGERS
OF THE
AUTHOR'S STUDIES,
THIS
FIRST VOLUME
OF HIS
LETTERS,
IN TESTIMONY
OF HIS GRATITUDE,
IS
HUMBLY DEDICATED.



TO
THOSE WORTHY
GENTLEMEN

THE KING AND GENTLEMEN
ENCOURAGERS
OF THE
AUTHORS STUDIES

THIS
FIRST VOLUME
OF HIS
J. E. T. R. S.
IN TESTIMONY
OF HIS GREAT
FAVOR
HUMBERT REED



P R E F A C E.



THE Account, in some of the following pages, of the great discoveries made among the ruins of *Herculaneum*, which is much more extensive, particular, and exact, than any that has before appeared ; gave the first occasion to the thought of making any of these LETTERS public. In consequence of which, it was intended to publish only those which describe its present situation and circumstances, and the Antiquities found therein ; together with the previous description of Mount *Vesuvius*, and relation of all the Eruptions which have happened, particularly that by which this City was overwhelmed. But the favourable opinion of Those, to whom some of the other LETTERS had been occasionally communicated, encouraged the Editor to compile a small Volume, rather than a Pamphlet. In doing which, he has endeavoured to dispose them in such a manner, as by the variety to render the whole a more agreeable entertainment.

There

VOL. I.

There is one particular, of which it is proper here to advertise the Reader ; that he may not expect, either to receive more satisfaction from the present Account than it will yield him, or to see any other more satisfactory in a little time. His Sicilian Majesty is building a Palace, and in it a fine Gallery, for the reception of all the Curiosities, which have already been, or may hereafter be, discovered, in this wonderful place ; the number of which is daily increasing. All these he designs to have engraved, described, and explained, in the same manner, as in the *Musæum Florentinum*. A Work of this nature can not be compleatly executed, 'till all these things have been ranged in their proper order in the intended Gallery ; and consequently will not probably see the light, 'till some years hence. In the mean time, to prevent any anticipation, no one, who is admitted to the sight of these Antiquities, is permitted to make use of a pencil, either in the subterraneous City, or in the palace at Portici. Which precaution, as it takes away all reasonable hopes of our having any very exact and perfect Account of them 'till that authentic one shall appear ; so it may serve

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serve to induce the public to be the better satisfied, in the mean while, with that which is given in these **LETTERS**. To render which the less imperfect, all that could be found advanced by others relating to this subject, has been collected, abridged, and subjoined by way of *Notes*; in which the various, and sometimes contradictory, relations of different persons may not be altogether unentertaining.

In the first Edition, several paragraphs, having been omitted in different pages, were added altogether in a short *Appendix* at the end of the first Volume: these are inserted in this new Edition in the proper places to which they belong. And an *Appendix* is now subjoined to each Volume, containing some alterations, and additions, particularly a translation of most of the Epitaphs, Inscriptions, &c. which are in Greek and Latin. When the translation of these was promised, it was not sufficiently apprehended, how difficult it would be to make good English of most, good sense of some, and any sense at all of others, by reason of their defects and apparent errors. On which accounts, it is feared, there may be
more

more occasion for the Editor to desire to be excused for some which are inserted, than for those which have been omitted. There is however one omission, of which it is proper to take particular notice, because it relates to a Piece, mentioned as part of the CONTENTS of the Second Volume, "Observations upon the sculpture of an antique Ivory Chair, made in the seventh century, representing our Blessed Saviour's flight into Egypt, and his first miracle at Cana." This piece was reserved for the latter part of the Volume; which, by the insertion of *Letters* on subjects of more consequence, insensibly swelled beyond the proposed size, 'till there was not room enough left for the addition. In all other respects, except the time of publication, the *Proposals* have been strictly observed; and indeed much exceeded. So that the Editor flatters himself upon the whole, that the Reader will think both the omissions and delay over-balanced, by the addition of four sheets of Letter-press, and two Copper-plates, more than were promised; without the least advance of the price on that account.

L E T T E R



LETTER I.

To Mr. F. B. M.

DEAR SIR, *Paris, Nov. 11. 1739. N. S.*



O pretend to give you a description of Paris, would be as presumptuous in me, as useless to you; who for some time past have had two such sensible and agreeable correspondents here, your brother and Mr. M. Nevertheless, how weak soever my pen may be, in comparison of theirs, I shall venture to mention a few things that have fallen in my way, and to make some short remarks upon them.

My curiosity first led me to their churches: which are in general after the old Gothic manner; and their chief cathedral, called *Nôtre Dame*, was built by the English. The insides are adorned either with tapestry, or pictures, or with both; and the altars are exceedingly rich: the music is very awful and solemn; and

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B

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the divine service celebrated with so much decency and regularity, that tho' I condemn their superstitions, I cannot but be seriously affected, when present at their worship. The palaces and hôtels are very magnificent without, and embellished in the most elegant manner within. The nobility residing here seem to excell ours in the grandeur of their habitations, and in the encouragement they shew men of ingenuity and learning ; to whom particular apartments are allowed in the Louvre. But the Parisians, I mean the commonalty, are like snails : they have substantial houses into which they can withdraw themselves ; but have not wherewithall to keep out poverty. As for their wives and daughters, I can see nothing in them of that engaging neatness, for which our British dames are so justly admired. To ask for news, is a very impertinent question ; no occurrences, either foreign, or domestic, being suffered to be printed, except in the Gazette ; and none, even in that, of the like trivial nature with the wretched stuff, which is the daily amusement of your London politicians. So that, if one be curious to know what passes even here, one must make use of foreign papers, as of a reflecting telescope, not to view the object directly in the place where it is, but as it is brought nearer to the eye by a second mirrour. In short,

short, their greatest liberty seems to be, as they express it, *de faire ses affaires* wherever they please; of which they are so ostentatious, that you can't mount their stair-cases but you meet with sensible demonstrations of it, to the very great embarrassment of your person, and particularly of that nice part of it your nose. I was at an opera the other night; and as that is the chief rendezvous of the tip-top *Belles*, I would fain give you a description of them: but alas nature was there be-dawbed in so scandalous a manner, that I must decline the disagreeable task; and leave you to form in your mind an idea, what a hideous spectacle a nose and two eyes must make, with two globular spots beneath them, as fiery red as the orb of the sun, when sitting in a dusky evening. If their hearts stand in need of such deceitful masks, as one would imagine their faces do, they must be the most detestable creatures in the world. I despair of ever seeing here such a bloom, and modest blush of nature, as render my pretty country-women so much more beautiful and charming.

There is no place in the world where one is more obliged to give way to the furious torrent of fashion; tho' I should take much more inward satisfaction in appearing like an Englishman: for here is little or no distinction as to

habit, between a valet de chambre, and his lord; and a man of sense is under a kind of necessity of appearing like a coxcomb. The other morning I was introduced to a French gentleman of fortune. At parting, I was waited on down stairs by his valet: who, after variety of compliments, acquainted me with his own extraordinary art in making peruques, and that he should be proud to serve me, &c. Sometime afterwards I was in the *Caffé Anglois*, when a person made his entrance dressed in black velvet, with a gold-laced hat, silver-hilted sword, &c. he accosted me in particular, in a genteel manner, and was very much my humble servant. It put me into no little flutter to see myself thus honoured by one, whose quality I thought answerable to his dress: but to my surprise and chagrine, he whispered me, that he was the valet de chambre, *alias* the barber afore-mentioned, and was ready to equip me *à la mode de Paris*. But in whatever fantastical fashion I may be here disguised, I shall always continue with the utmost plainness and sincerity,

Your most affectionate friend, &c.

LETTER

LETTER II.

To Dr. R.

DEAR DOCTOR, *Fontainebleau, Nov. 20. 1739. N. S.*

THO' I may have deferred this token of my remembrance and affection beyond the limits which perhaps a brother may be willing to allow; yet if you consider, that a traveller is obliged to let slip no opportunity of seeing whatever is worth notice; and of conversing with all persons who can give him the best information, you will acknowledge, that having no command of his time, his hand may very often be in no capacity to obey the dictates of his heart. By the Letters I sent to Westminster, you have been acquainted, no doubt, with the manner of my voyage and journey to Paris; of which place it would be superfluous to mention any thing to you, who have traversed every part of it.

When I delivered your Letter to Monsieur BOURGEOIS, (who, by the by, puts me in mind of Old HIPPISLY in the *Entertainments*); after abundance of ceremonies with his cap and his heels, he, by the assistance of his good old dame, made out the contents: which I must own, he, like a true catholic, faithfully and conscientiously fulfilled. I ought likewise, out of gratitude, to
make

make honourable mention of him upon another account, viz. That in his smoaking hot nursery, I so perfectly sucked in the excellent qualities of soups and ragoûts, that I lament not now the loss of English roast-beef or plumb-pudding.

Did you not retain some idea in your mind, I should want words to represent to you, as well as colours strong enough to paint, the true portrait of a *Mademoiselle à la mode de Paris*. If you think, that a person of my business ought to reside there for some time, to improve in the art of colouring, you are much mistaken: for painters should studie nothing but what is natural, and avoid every thing that is hideous or hurtful to the sight; to which the blazing cheeks of these *Belles* are very prejudicial: for my own sake therefore I turned my eyes, and my thoughts from them.

This place is in the direct road to Lions, and is remarkable chiefly for its convenient situation for hunting. The court being now here, as I was so godly as to attend the king and the old cardinal at mass, I resolved also to get a tit at any rate, rather than not accompanie his majesty at the chace. Fortune was very favourable, and put an English nag in my way: 'tis true, he had not so much mettle as your little Jack; but he had more flesh than Sorrel. The Frenchmen had taught him to be very compli-
sant

LETTER III.

7

fant in falling on his knees ; however he had not so much forgotten his natural love and care for his countrey-man, as to lay me in a ditch, or stick me on a hedge.

The coach for Chalon waits, and obliges me to break off this moment, by subscribing myself.

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

LETTER III.

To Mr. F. B. M.

DEAR SIR, *Lions, Nov. 30. 1739. N. S.*

IN my journey from Paris to this place, I thought it would be very proper to see Fontainbleau ; through which the flying coach, called here *La Diligence*, always passes. I therefore set out three or four days before it : having a greater desire of stopping at Fontainbleau, because it would give me an opportunity of seeing the French Court in that illustrious scene of hunting, and particularly that old fox, who has so often baffled and left the hounds of all nations at a fault, but more especially one sad dog whom I need not name. Nature seems to have exactly suited his outward to his inward parts ; for there is a wonderful vivacity in his countenance,

tenance, intermixed with the slyness peculiar to that animal.

Amongst the diversions at Fontainbleau, I was at one that is ushered in with a great deal of magnificence; viz. a hunting-match, which the king very seldom misses a day. The rendezvous is at a fixed hour, in a large forest; where it is surprizing to see what a number of fine English hunting horses come bounding in. As soon as his majesty, &c. arrive, the stag is unharboured: the king, who is the best of horse-men, is always foremost in the chace. There is something very noble and delightful in the sight of two or three hundred horse-men streaming after him along the plain: no-body is permitted to ride before him; and, if it happens to be a wet day, he takes delight in riding slow, and in having every body soaked about him. His dogs are almost as sacred as his own person: for great precaution is taken, that no one ride amongst them; and they are all marked with the sign of the cross; an incitement, they imagine, to swiftness, as well as a defence from the head of a stag, or the tusk of a boar. The people, from the lowest to the highest, seem equally intoxicated with this and other kinds of superstition; and consequently they interfere in the meanest, as well as greater affairs. At my lodgings at Paris I missed a
little

little money, and concluded I had mislaid it in my chamber: the servants having searched to no purpose, went thereupon, and said mass to the St. Esprit for the recovery of it: how prevalent their prayers might be, I can't pretend to say; but, my memory returning, I found I had only erred in my calculation of French money.

In our way from Fontainebleau through Burgundy, we were confined to such a sort of vehicle, that we had only our heads now and then at liberty to look out: but had it been otherwise, the country was so covered with snow, that we could only form to our-selves a faint idea, how delightful it must needs be in the summer season, when cloathed with vines. In three days we arrived at Chalon, a city about sixty leagues from Paris; there quitted the coach, and embarked in a vessel called *Le coche d'eau*, to go down the Saone; which brought us to Lions on the 25. The latter part of our journey to this place recompensed us for all the severe jostlings we had received on land from the badness of the roads. The river Thames flows not gentler than the Saone, nor do I think its banks and hills comparable to those of the latter. The Thames indeed is bordered with many delightful gardens and seats; but here they are exceeded both in num-

ber and beauty. As the vessel advanced through the windings of the river, the hills opened, like so many scenes, and discovered the most agreeable landships in nature.

As I shall write to my brother the Doctor this week, and give him a short account of this city, which you will have an opportunity of seeing; I shall here beg leave to conclude abruptly,

Your most affectionate friend, &c.

L E T T E R IV.

To Dr. R.

DEAR DOCTOR, *Lions, Dec. 6. 1739. N. S.*

THIS city is accounted the next in dignity to the metropolis: to which tho' it yields in the number and nature of its buildings; yet has it vastly the advantage of the other by its delightful and romantic situation. The greatest part is built upon two high rocky mountains, through which the Saone flows southward, making an agreeable division, and then running into the Rhône; on the north side of which a third part of the city stands on plain ground. On the sides of these mountains are
ranged

L E T T E R I V .

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ranged houses, monasteries, churches, and castles one above another, (like so many shells, of different sizes, shapes, and colours, in a large piece of rock-work) in that form and order, that they mutually contribute to distinguish and display each other. The streets are ascended by steps; and my curiosity induced me to count those which led up to a chapel of the Carmelites, situated about the middle of one of the mountains; which proved to be above three hundred. At some distance from hence stands a convent of Minimes, in whose gardens are the ruins of an old Roman theatre; and at a quarter of a mile's distance, the remains of an aqueduct, of which two or three arches are still intire. There is one place remarkably strong, from whence neither the brave, nor the cunning can have any hopes of escaping: it is a castle, built on the pinnacles of rocks, to which there is onely one narrow avenue cut out: here they confine the prisoners of war. In the southern part of the city, which lies in the flat, the most celebrated place is a square, called *La place royale*; which is but little less than Grosvenor-square, and has onely two sides uniform. In the midst is an equestrian statue of LEWIS XIV. upon a large oblong pedestal: on the two sides of which are two figures in basso relievo, one of the female sex, to denote the

soft and gentle flowing of the Saone; the other of the male, to represent the roughness and rapidity of the Rhône; which at this time of the year is very visible at its conjunction with the Saone, and increases prodigiously when the snow on the mountains dissolves. Each of these figures is supported by lions, as being the arms, and emblematical representation of this city. There are likewise two fine fountains, which contribute not a little to the beauty of the square. Here is an opera three times a week, and all sorts of public diversions: and the better sort of people are but little inferior in politeness to those at Paris.

I shall set out for Avignon to-morrow, and from thence to Marseilles: from one of which places, you shall receive the next account of

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

LETTER V.

To Dr. R.

DEAR DOCTOR, *Marseilles, Dec. 30. 1739. N.S.*

WE embarked on the Rhône the 7th Inst. which by its prodigious rapidity, without any other assistance, carried us in two days

days to Avignon. In our passage we dined at Pont S. Esprit, so called from the famous bridge there. It is certainly a wonderful structure, both for its beauty and strength: the former appears in the wideness of its arches; and its having remained intire for so many hundred years is a demonstration of the latter. There are nineteen arches, each of which is about thirty-five paces wide: the French out of vanity increase the number, telling strangers that there are thirty-eight; but they reckon the little ones which are turned in every pier, only to make the structure seem lighter. The breadth of the bridge is only six yards; and as to the length, I was obliged to trust to what they told me, which was a thousand. At Avignon there are the ruins of a bridge, of which I have taken a draught.

Marseilles, on account of its harbour, is one of the most convenient cities of France, for trade and navigation; and was made a free port soon after the general plague, that happened about twenty years ago, which swept off eighty thousand persons. I was at the bishop's palace, on purpose to see a picture of that calamity, drawn exactly on the place, and at the time when it made its progress and desolation through the people. It is a piece admirably executed, both for its representation of circumstances as
they

they actually happened, and for its fine disposition. The present bishop of Marfeilles, (whom Mr. POPE in his * writings justly mentions to his honour) is represented bare-foot, giving assistance to the sick ; whom he constantly attended all the time the plague lasted, which was two years.

There is a church called S. Victoire, which is built on the foundation of an old Roman castle. Here they pretend to have abundance of reliques ; and whatever part of the body of any saint they would make you believe they have, it is preserved in a silver or golden case like it, encompassed with jewels of great value. It is impossible for me to recollect, how many heads, arms, and legs, &c. they shewed of different saints ; but I remember they assured me, that in one case there was a rib of S. STEPHEN, in another a finger of MARY MAGDALENE, and in a third a toe of S. PETER. In the vaults, they keep with great care the cross of S. ANDREW : here your belief is as necessary as in all other things which they shew you, or else you'll not receive much satisfaction : for it is covered with such a fine case inlayed with gold,

* Why drew Marfeilles' good Bishop purer breath,
When Nature sicken'd, and each gale was death ?
Essay on Man, Epist. iv.

gold, that the real cross, if there be any, is quite concealed from the sight.

Hard by is a little chapel, dedicated to the Virgin MARY; a picture of whom, drawn by S. LUKE, they say, adorns the altar. I should have been very glad to have imbibed some good hints in painting from the work of so great an evangelist, and patron of my trade: but unfortunately the grates hindered me from approaching, and the obscure dismal lamp within, from distinctly seeing. Such obstacles as these are of great use to the priests, in infusing faith into strangers, or at least preventing all contradiction. Into this sacred place, like the holy of holies, none but priests may enter, and more especially no women. Such a severe restraint upon the fair sex, made me inquire of one of the priests the reason; who told me, that forty virgins lay buried there all together in one grave; who, when the city was sacked by some Corsairs, under the terrible apprehensions of being ravished, to secure their honour, disfigured themselves by cutting off their lips and noses: he added, that the world was now so wicked, that they dared not admit a woman there, lest she should have been polluted. Had I not been within the verge of the church, and had I dared speak my mind, I might have told him, that
the

the same reason might perhaps hold good for not admitting many a Romish priest.

To one that has been used to live in a free country, there is something very shocking here in the continual rattling of chains, which strike your ears through all the streets, occasioned by the great number of slaves. There are twenty galleys that lye against the kays, to each of which belong three or four hundred slaves: some have more liberty than others, being allowed little huts on the kays, to which they are chained, where every one exercises the trade to which he was bred: others are employed in carrying burdens, yet never singly, two or three being always linked together, a Turk or a Jew with a Christian; which precaution is taken, that their natural hatred to one another may hinder them from concurring in making their escape.

We have been detained here a fortnight by contrary winds, but shall set sail as soon as ever they prove favourable to the intended voyage of,

Dear doctor,

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

LETTER

LETTER VI.

*To Dr. R.*DEAR DOCTOR, *Leghorn, Jan 16. 1740. N. S.*

THE first day of the new year, according to the stile of this countrey, every thing seeming to promise a prosperous voyage, we embarked on a French vessel for this place. The winds failed us betwixt Genoa and Corsica; where we were beating about for a week, and truly with continual and imminent danger; for in the day time a calm always came upon us, and storms with contrary winds succeeded in the night. Amidst all this, it was very happy for us, that a south wind did not rise; for if it had, we must have been inevitably driven on the rocks which lye on the coast of the states of Genoa. Tho' the discipline and danger of the sea generally causes in fresh water-men various evacuations; yet, to my great inconvenience, it had but half its effect upon me: so that at my landing here on the ninth, I was obliged to have the advice of a physician. I could be very merry on this occasion, but I think it improper to joke upon an indisposition which made me excessively ill for three or four days; and which, in your judgment, I believe, might have proved,

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of

of bad consequence. This very probably puts you in mind of your patients, who lie in the shadow of death for the want of your attendance : I will by no means therefore detain you any longer from giving such relief to others, as I have lately experienced. In administering which, and in every other undertaking, I heartily wish you all imaginable success, being with the sincerest love

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

L E T T E R VII.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Feb. 23. 1740. N.S.*

IN obedience to your commands at parting, I wrote to you in French from Paris, and in Latin from Marseilles : both which letters I hope you have received ; and been so good as to excuse the incorrectness in either language. My brother, I presume, has informed you of my dangerous voyage from Marseilles to Leghorn ; from whence I was in hopes of going by sea to Civita Vecchia in a tartane, which waited only for a fair wind : but having stayed five days in vain, I set out with my companion in a returned chaise, and arrived at this place
Jan.

Jan. the 24th. Your learned friend, and old acquaintance, has been very kind in providing us a convenient lodging in the Strada Felice. At Aix in Provence Dr. C. an eminent physician, gave me a letter to Mr. E. a painter and virtuoso here ; who happened to die a week before my arrival ; some of whose utensils I have purchased. At my arrival here, Signor CAMILLO PADERNI was at Naples, from whence he is lately returned : I delivered Dr. MEAD's letter to him ; but finding him to be a younger man, and in a less settled condition than I imagined, I entered myself yesterday, not without very good advice, under Signor FRANCESCO IMPERIALI. This gentleman (for so I may justly call him) has been for many years, not only one of the most eminent in his profession ; but has constantly supported his character, as a person of great humanity, probity and honour ; and it was under him that CAMILLO himself studied for several years. Mr. RICHARDSON's letter has been of some service to me ; and I have been likewise strongly recommended to Monsieur DU TROY, Director of the French Academy ; who has promised to give me all the assistance in his power. Having the instructions of such living masters, and in the midst of so great a number of the best originals by the most illustrious hands, both ancient and modern,

I shall with the greatest alacrity and assiduity apply myself to the imitation of them. Looking upon my situation here as resembling that of a young tree, which has been raised very carefully in a domestic nursery, and thence transplanted into a distant, but much richer soil: from which, when grown up to maturity, the planter may justly expect some extraordinary fruit, as a grateful recompence for all his care, expence, and pains. That these expectations may not be altogether disappointed, shall be the constant study and endeavour of,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient and dutiful, &c.

L E T T E R VIII.

To Mr. F. B. M.

Rome, Mar. 20. 1740. N. S.

THE goose, when fat, is seldom found
 To raise her-self above the ground;
 But when she's light, and lean, and poor,
 She's sometime seen aloft to soar.
 Emblem of poets: which alone
 Explains the cause, why I am one.

5

For

LETTER VIII.

21

For you must know, The triple crown,
With the pope's head, is fallen down ;
Which from our necks a while has broke
CHRIST's universal vicar's yoke. 10

But this release gave small relief ;
And ill consol'd our general grief.
For his departure (for our crimes)
Happen'd at worst, 'cause best of times :
It stopp'd us in our full career 15

Of high diversions and good cheer ;
And chang'd our Carnavalian dainties
To what none likes, but who a faint is.
Hence I, late plump, as once JOHN GAY,
(I rather JEMMY MORE should say) 20

On maigre fed, and fishes stale,
Am now as lean, and thin, and pale,
As your new *Champion* of the nation,
Don DIEGO, after salivation :
And I, like him, my-self account 25
Fit weight on Pegasus to mount.

Besides, in prose, and out of season,
Your patience, without rhyme or reason,
I've often tir'd: but at this time,
I'll give, if not sound reason, rhyme. 30

Then, pray, don't scorn my verse as bad ;
It suits the subject best, if sad.
For I the dismal pomp and state
Of the pope's funeral shall relate ;

And

And with the conclave close my song, 35
Which shan't, tho' dull perhaps, be long.

Her curtain now of fable hue
Sad night o'er all the welkin drew ;
When owls, amidst the dusky shade,
In treble lamentations made ; 40
And frogs, extending wide their throats,
Their grief croak'd loud in basso notes.

In honour of the God-like man,
The grand procession slow began :
Which if minutely I pretend 45
To mention, there would be no end.

The corpse, in purple litter lay'd,
Is by two mules milk-white convey'd,
Adorn'd in robe *Pontificalis*,
To the dark prison, whence no bail is. 50
For you must know, The custom's here
T' interr the great in finest gear :
That when they knock at heaven's gate,
They need not, like the vulgar, wait ;
Where none, in foul old garments clad, 55
By PETER e'er admision had.

Unwieldy, drag'd with creaking moan,
Cannons revers'd, behind move on.
Shrill trumpets and hoarse kettle-drums,
(Conjoin'd with sympathetic hums) 60
A military confort made,
Well suited to the sacred shade
Of

LETTER VIII.

23

Of him, that dy'd a glorious saint,
As General of church militant.

Within S. PETER's spacious dome, 65
Erected stood a lofty tomb ;

Near which some hours the body lay,
That all their last devoirs might pay.

Then I, amidst the gaping crowd,
As Roman catholic avow'd, 70

Curious of this most pompous show
The ceremonies all to know,

The holy toe, among the rest,

With lips in feign'd devotion prest :
When in that very point of time 75

The penance follow'd close the crime.

Half-mounted on my back one rode ;

Upon my heels another trod,

Who from my foot an old shoe tore,
Which I could ne'er recover more. 80

For had I stoop'd to search it out,

I'd been demolish'd by the rout ;

And follow'd the pope's ghost to glory,

Or else to hell, or purgatory.

As fighting for PATROCLUS dead 85

Caus'd many a broken limb and head,

'Twixt Greeks and Trojans, 'till the fray

Scarce left 'em limbs to crawl away :

So, with like ardour, while we strove

On holy feet t' imprint our love, 90
Each

Each squeez'd, and push'd, and gor'd his brother;
 All kick'd, and trampled one another;
 'Till our own feet were hardly more
 Alive, than those we would adore.

But when the proper time was come 95
 The sacred reliques to intomb;
 With elbows force, and utmost strength
 Of arms, I freed my-self at length;
 And leaving soon the crowded dome,
 Through darkness hopp'd and hobbled home, 100
 One foot dry-shod, one wet with mire,
 Half protestant, half bare-foot frier.

But why should we this loss deplore,
 As if no pope we could have more?
 Since 'gainst the devil and the Turk 105
 The cardinals are hard at work,
 T' elect a General in his stead,
 And give the Christian world a Head.
 For this, in separate cells immur'd,
 With locks, and bolts, and bars secur'd, 110
 (That nothing worldly ent'ring there,
 With their devotions interfere,)
 They to the Holy Ghost address
 Incessant pray'rs for good success,
 That his direction of their choice 115
 Would join 'em in one general voice,

But all precautions to restrain
 The world's intrusion will be vain,

Unless

L E T T E R VIII. 25

Unless from eating they 're confin'd,
And fasting to devotion join'd. 120

For oft convey'd in tarts or pyes
Intelligence concealed lyes ;
And in the belly of a fowl
There 's sometimes hid a magic scroll,
Which, while that yields a plenteous dinner, 125
Converts the saint into a sinner.

Thus Satan all restraints eludes ;
And by the flesh the world intrudes :
For secular promises, or gold,
Ecclesiastic votes are sold ; 130
And when a major number 's bought,
Th' Election 's .to conclusion brought.

Then let not Papists cast their sneers
Upon our Royal *Congé d' élites* ;
Nor laugh at chapters' free elections, 135
Ty'd closely down by court directions ;
To which the spirit must *consentire*,
Or flesh incurr a *Præmunire*.

For these grand prelates' grave pretences,
To scorn all human influences, 140
And by divine impulse alone,
To raise the worthiest to the throne,
Are nought but farce, the world t' amuse,
'Till their intrigues are ripe to chuse
The very man, whom kings before 145
Chose, as their idol, to adore.

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But

But to prevent the long delay,
 Caus'd by this *hocus pocus* play,
 One way there seems much more to me
 Infallible than pope's decree. 150
 Were cardinals, who now at will
 In conclave eat and drink their fill,
 Like English jury-men shut up,
 And not to break-fast, dine, nor sup,
 'Till they the Holy Father nam'd : 155
 The worldly mind would soon be tam'd,
 And, scorning all th' efforts of Mammon,
 Would not persist to keep the sham on ;
 But without tedious hesitation
 Proclaim the SPIRIT's nomination. 160

L E T T E R IX.

To Mr. F. B. M.

DEAR SIR, Rome, July 10. 1740. N. S.

TH O' the coronation of the new pope did
 not answer my expectation, as being in no
 wise comparable to the coronations in England ;
 yet, as you may have a curiosity to know some-
 thing about it, I shall endeavour to give you some
 satisfaction, by striking out a short sketch of it.

His holyness, three days after his election, was
 carried on mens shoulders, in a great elbow chair
 covered with velvet embroidered with gold, from
 the

the conclave in the Vatican to the church of S. Peter. The people, who quite filled the church, tho' twice as spacious as your S. Paul's, received him with great acclamations; while his holyness, in return, with open hands, scattered his benedictions on every side. He then seated himself on a throne erected behind the great altar; and the cardinals sat in rows on each side. Whilst the finest music both vocal and instrumental sounded, the cardinals, arch-bishops, &c. approaching him singly, in their proper order, payed him homage: the former kissing his toe and hand, and then embracing him; the latter only saluting his toe and hand. After this, the holy father blessed the altar, &c. and having finished his devotions, was placed upon it; and there again received the same homage from the cardinals, &c. Being retired to his throne once more, a cardinal arch-priest brought him the host, and the consecrated wine: of each of which he received half, sucking the latter through a golden pipe: immediately after which, high mass was celebrated. This being ended, he was conveyed to the tribune or gallery over the grand gate of the church, facing the large area before it, and set upon a high throne, to be viewed by the people. There two cardinals took off the mitre from his head, and put on the triple crown, called the *Tiara*; which signifies, that CHRIST'S

vicar has the pontifical, imperial, and royal power. The whole was concluded by the pope's solemn benediction of the people; the cannons from the castle of S. Angelo firing, &c. from which, for two nights successively, there were surprizing fire-works played off, in which they here particularly excell.

His holyness is esteemed a person worthy of the high post to which he has been advanced; having passed through all the inferiour offices, and risen gradually by his own merit. The state having been much shaken during his predecessor's administration, he has taken several new measures to repair it; and among the rest, has lately published an edict against the luxury of the clergy, and to regulate their dress, and likewise that of the ladies.

To fill up my paper; I shall add to the preceding sketch another, tho' smaller, of the ceremony of presenting the annual tribute for the kingdom of Naples. This was performed at the first church near the entrance of the chief gate of Rome. His holyness came thither with great attendance, as usual, and performed high mass, &c. The procession began by a detachment of light horse, next to which marched all the feudatory Neapolitan nobility on horse-back, according to their rank, attended by their gentlemen and officers. These were immediately followed

L E T T E R X.

29

followed by the genet, which is a white Spanish horse or mare, carrying a pack-saddle of red velvet, with a housing of the same, embroidered with silver, dragging on the ground ; at whose neck hung a red velvet purse, in which was the bill of exchange of seven thousand ducats for the tribute. Then succeeded a long train of nobles and prelates on mules, with guards, attendants, &c. The genet was led up within the door of the church, where the pope, from his chair supported on mens shoulders, after many speeches and formalities, received the tribute. It was say'd, that the genet, like ALEXANDER the great's horse, would be so polite as to courtesie to his holyness : but this remarkable instance of the Spanish lady's good breeding I could not perceive, tho' I was close to her ; an unmannerly fellow in the crowd giving me a push, just as they say'd she made her obeysance.

I am, dear Sir,

Your most &c.

L E T T E R X.

To Mr. F. B. M.

DEAR SIR, *Rome, Aug. 3. 1740. N. S.*

K NOWING how acceptable to you brave actions are, especially those of our own countrey-men ; I thought it would be a breach
of

of friendship, if I did not let you partake of the inexpressible pleasure I received in the relation of one, which is equalled, I think, by none in this age. It is that of captain READ before Civita Vecchia: of which tho' the fame has already reached England, yet, since you may perhaps see onely imperfect accounts of it, I shall set it down, just as I received it from the mouth of the heroe himself; who is at present at Rome, soliciting for redress. I went to visit him the other day, and found him supporting himself on crutches: in which attitude, he seemed to me to be more nobly supported, than if in a chair of state; and to be graced with bandages more honourable than a star and garter. Persons, when they relate their own exploits, generally magnifie them: but I assure you, he is a man of great modesty, whose discourse is intirely free from those vain oaths, which are so frequently discharged from the mouth of a sailor. Besides, it was an affair transacted within sight of a town, where hundreds were eye-witnesses; and which his enemies themselves, to their shame, are forced to acknowledge.

As the captain was sailing into the port of Civita Vecchia, being about two miles off, he perceived two large boats, making out from the shore towards him, filled with men. He had prepared his ship for a peaceable anchoring, and
not

not for any defence against enemies, in a neutral port. But as the boats advanced, having soon discovered who they were; he immediately sounded his little crew, consisting only of seven men, who all promised to stand by him to the last: and they were all as good as their words, except one, who soon hid himself, not being able to bear the sight of a Spaniard. In the short time the captain had to get ready, he had pointed two four-pounders: but the swiftness of the row-boats prevented their doing any execution; and the Spaniards were on board of him immediately. He had no other resource but in his musquets, which he fired so effectually, that he cleared the deck of them in an instant; they soon repeated their rashness, and he as soon made them feel the effects of his resentment. Unfortunately for the captain, there was a calm, which made them easily find security in their boats; whereas, had there been a brisk gale, at those two attacks he could have taken them all prisoners. The Spaniards having eighteen men killed or drowned, made off to their privateer, with bitter menaces, &c. The captain in the interim encouraged his men and gave necessary orders for a defence against a third attack.

The privateer, which carried twenty guns and one hundred and thirty men, making up directly to him, the engagement was renewed with
more

more fury than before : and the captain returned the compliment of their twenty guns with his two little ones, as fast as he could ; which he charged, pointed, and played solely himself. He had struck such a panic into the Spaniards, that not one of them dared to shew his face above deck ; all of them lying under cover, and continually pouring cannon shot into his vessel, which on account of the calm and nearness had all their effect. A ball grazed the forehead of the captain's brother, as he stood by him ; and carried off an arm of one of his men. Having at last found by an hour's experience, that valour could not stand out against numbers so vastly superiour ; he asked for quarter, which was promised him.

But the revengeful and brutal Spaniards, having no sense of generosity or honour, far from performing their word, stripped him, and fell on him with their cutlasses : from which he received a stroak, which almost separated his thumb from his hand, and several wounds on his head. They still repeating their blows, he thought he should find more mercy in the sea ; and as he retired, flung himself backwards over-board ; at which instant a Spaniard fired at him. I have taken notice of his wounds, and have observed, by the different manner of the entering of the balls, that two passed through the bottom of
his

his foot, two by the side of his shin which lodged in his calf, and two in his knee. He swam for some time; and by diving escaped several blows that were struck at him with oars. At last a Spaniard, more humane than the rest, took him into the boat. The poor man, who had lost his arm, they hacked to pieces; and the rest they reserved for more cruel torment.

After the engagement, the Spaniards intended to put out to sea; but having by chance left their doctor in Civita Vecchia, and several of them being wounded; they were obliged to return. The cruelties and indignities, which the captain received while he remained in the privateer, which was fifty days, would be too tedious and shocking to relate. Tho' the inhabitants of the town flocked to see and assist so brave a person in his misfortunes; not one was permitted to speak to him. The Spaniards tried all endeavours, with menaces and hard usage, to oblige him to sign a paper, signifying, That when he was taken, he was out of cannon-shot of the port, that by this means they might make him a lawful prize. The governour of Civita Vecchia, by bribing and underhand dealings, was instrumental in the injury. Count FERETTI, who is governour of the arms, acted as honourably, as the other did basely. He exclaimed loudly against the injustice of the Spaniards, and point-

ed the cannon of the fort against the privateer; threat'ning, that if they offered to slip out to sea, to sink them immediately. By this means the captain regained his liberty; but has not as yet recovered his ship or goods. I leave you to judge, what reward the treachery and baseness of the governour of Civita Vecchia, what the inhumanity of the Spaniards, and what the unparalleled * bravery of our countrey-men deserve; and am,

Dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately.

* It may not be improper to subjoin here another instance of the like bravery, which was attended with better success: "Capt. RICHARD HORNBY, who commanded the Wrightson and Isabella, a small merchant-man of Sunderland, laden with corn, and bound for Holland; mounting four carriage and two swivel guns, with five men and three boys only. on June 2, 1744. fought a French privateer, the marquis de Brancas, Capt. André commander, of ten carriage and eight swivel guns, with seventy five men and three hundred small arms, several hours: and having killed and wounded thirty-six men; by a parting gun upon his stern set fire to his powder, blew up his steerage, and sunk him; only three men escaping, who were taken up by some Dutch fishing boats. For this great action he was rewarded only with a gold medal."

Old England, Jan. 24. 1747.

L E T T E R

LETTER XI.

*To Miss E. R.*DEAR B. *Rome, Nov. 13. 1740. N. S.*

FOR almost four months, I have been in daily expectation of hearing from some of my dear brothers and sisters. As for the Doctor's silence, I hope, that the multiplicity of his business will not allow him time to write any thing but prescriptions: if so, I shall willingly dispense with my own uneasiness, for his advantage. Besides, perhaps the fair ... has intirely taken possession of his whole heart, and not left the least corner for a poor brother; who must acquiesce, as patiently as he can, under the present exclusion.

*For when a lady's in the case,**You know, all other things give p'ace.*

But if one of the six forget me, what shall I say to the other five? If they insist upon my writing first; I should willingly have done it to each, and in particular to my dear B. if the science which I am courting had not ingrossed all my time, and even all my thoughts. For since my arrival at this place, as soon as I had made a little reflection upon my condition, I seemed to be set down in a deep valley near a high mountain: on the side of which some of my fellow-travellers had got up half-way, others pretty near the top; but I had

the mortification to find my-self almost alone at the foot of the hill. Immediately therefore I put my-self in motion; and by clambering with hands and feet have gain'd some small part of the ascent: where having met with a breathing place, which kind fortune has put in my way, I shall indulge myself in the pleasure of scribbling to you the following.

In the first place, perhaps, as a sister, you may be desirous of being informed of a brother's manner of living, &c. in a countrey, where the customs differ so much from those of his own. My dwelling is on a situation that is healthy and airy, in a single but convenient apartment, with a companion in the same studies. You will, no doubt, pitie our condition: for what can two poor bachelors do in houshold affairs, without the assistance of a kind sister, or even of a servant? Why, necessity being the mother of industry and invention, we supplie the want of those advantages tolerably well; and I may say, with such management, that we lose no time. Besides, as the people here make no conscience of cheating us as being Heretics, and scruple not to give that as a reason to our faces for so doing; what might we not apprehend they would do, behind our backs, and in our lodgings? Lastly, that vulgar proverb, *God sends meat, but the Devil sends cooks*, is literally verified here: for
tho'

tho' this countrey produces the best of beef, mutton, &c. yet they are so mangled and disguised by the fiery persecution, which they undergo in pots and stew-pans, that one has as much difficulty to know what one eats, as an antiquary, to find out the inscription of an old coin, which has lain rusting under ground for many hundreds of years. For these reasons, we are frequently our own cooks; and this we find more agreeable to our bodies, as well as our pockets. On vigils, and on every friday and saturday, it is not permitted to eat flesh: a severe restraint on Christian liberty, in the opinion of the stanch Protestants of Great Britain; where stated days of fasting and abstinence, tho' marked in the Calendar, and enjoined by the Rubric, are now scarce ever observed, except by those who can get nothing to eat. For my part, I am so used to fasting here, that I may very well on that account pass for a good Catholic. But I shew too much fondness in dwelling so long upon so poor a subject as my own dear self; and shall therefore pass to one much more entertaining.

I shall wave giving you a description of the surprizing remains of the old Roman grandeur and magnificence; being sensible, that the ruins which time and age have made in what was once very beautiful, can be no ways agreeable to one of your sex. I shall therefore only touch upon
some

some things, which are at present in their full perfection and glory : but you must not expect any exact order or connection ; and the extent of my paper will not allow me to expatiate in long particularities.

Modern Rome is eminent, beyond all other cities, chiefly on the account of its obelisks, fountains, palaces, and churches.—The obelisks are oblong square pieces of Porphyry, or other marble, growing gradually smaller from the basis to the top, which ends in an obtuse angle ; and, tho' of one intire piece, are some of them * seventy foot high. They were brought from Egypt to Rome, near two thousand years ago ; where having stood for some hundreds, they were thrown down by the Goths and Vandals : and, after lying in that demolished condition, for as many hundreds more, have been re-erected within these two or three last centuries, and set up in the most conspicuous parts of the city.—In traversing the streets, which are generally broad, one is very agreeably surprized in lighting upon beautiful fountains ; from which the most excellent water is poured forth in cataracts, or more gently

* The obelisk, which stands in the middle of the area before S. Peter's, is of one intire piece of Granite, and is seventy eight foot high, without reckoning either the pedestal, or the cross, which SIXTUS V. caused to be placed on the top, when he set up that ancient monument in 1586. MISON'S *Voyage*. Vol. II. Part 1.

gently plays from the mouth of a dolphin or Triton.—— The palaces of the pope, of the Italian princes, and of the cardinals, are very large, stately, and noble edifices; the apartments in them exceeding grand, the cielings and sides adorned with the most excellent paintings: and the gardens belonging to them finely layed out into spacious walks, &c. terminated with beautiful fountains and statues.——But of all things, the churches draw my attention most: some of which really exceed imagination, being built, according to the exactest rules of architecture, intirely of Italian marble; and lined within, either with the most costly sorts from foreign countries, exquisitely polished, or with crimson damask or velvet, fringed with gold: capital pictures by the most eminent masters being placed at proper distances, heightened by the most artificial carving and gilding. Each church has several altars, upon which immense riches are displayed, especially on any saint's day; being illuminated by an infinite number of wax tapers, and furnished with silver images as big as the life; round the necks, and on the breasts of many of which, are hung the richest pearls and diamonds. Whilst our eyes are entertained with these splendid objects, our ears are as delightfully charmed with the finest vocal and instrumental music. You may imagine, what a refreshment it must needs be
for

for me, after the fatigue of a whole day's close application to my business, to step into such places of beauty and harmony.

The processions of the clergy are exceeding pompous, and full of pageantry: in which they carry through the streets large pictures, crucifixes, and images; most frequently those of the virgin MARY, and of our Saviour, represented as a little child in her arms. It is not long since I met with an extraordinary sight of this kind. Upon a large machine, supported on mens shoulders, was erected a sort of throne, with a canopy over it, surrounded with wax lights in the midst of day. Under it stood an image of the Blessed Virgin, in full proportion, dressed out very fine with abundance of jewels, in embroidered stays, gown, and petticoat, and a vast hoop to the highest pitch of the mode. And as nothing is generally more grateful to the fancy of a young lady than this; I shall leave you to improve the idea, by your own imagination, without weakening it by the addition of any thing less agreeable from,

Dear B.

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XII.

*To Miss E. R.*DEAR B. *Rome, Jan. 3. 1741. N. S.*

YOU no doubt wondered, that in my last, I said nothing of the Italian ladies. Why, really, to speak the truth, I am not much conversant with them : yet, as nothing which is the frequent subject of a painter's art, can be supposed to pass unobserved by him ; so more especially, in every countrey, the most beautiful part of the creation cannot but attract his particular regard and observation. I shall therefore now very briefly communicate to you the result of mine.

At the coronation of the pope, I had a fine opportunity of taking a repeated view of the chiefest quality ; having been admitted, by a particular favour, near the tribune, or gallery, where they sate. The brightness of their jewels struck me, I assure you, much more than their faces. Here and there indeed sate a lady, who had both a good complexion, and good features ; but in general, Nature has given them the quite contrary. In England, a genteel and graceful behaviour frequently makes amends for the want of a fine face : but in this countrey, as they are, for the greatest part, not handsome ; so they are terribly awkward. They wear a dress, like the

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French

French sack, extended on each side by a hoop, not quite six yards wide. But, that I may not be thought too severe a critic, I suppose, that most of their pretty women are shut up in nunneries from the sight of mankind.

In October last, I was three or four days at Albano; which is at present but a mean place, being chiefly remarkable for many antiquities. Its situation indeed is extremely pleasant, having a fine prospect of several large lakes, and beautiful villages. In that month, every body goes to the *Il villeggiare*, as they call it; that is, they retire into the countrey to take their pleasure; where they pass their time in walking, or riding, or at assemblies, concerts, balls, races, &c. The general rendezvous was then at the place above-mentioned, and the villages round about it. Asses, in your countrey, are looked upon as very despicable beasts; but here they are made honourable, by the ladies, who so frequently bestride them. I happened to be walking one day in a pleasant road, through a great wood; when, on a sudden, I heard a confused noise of singing, fiddling, and braying. I stood still, surprized for some time, not being able to conjecture what could be the cause of so odd a concert. At last appeared a jovial company of Amazons and humble suitors, about forty in number; not of the common sort of people,

ple, as by their actions one would have imagined. Every one bestrode an afs, the ladies being dressed *à propos* with trowzers on, to secure them from unlucky accidents. And indeed they had occasion enough for them: for a mad-headed fellow, mounted in a chaise, drove furiously down after them; and the lane being narrow, put them all to the rout in a moment. It was a comical sight, to see one afs falling upon another, some rolling into hedges, and some into ditches: and let me tell you, I saw many a pretty leg, and should have seen many a pretty bare back-side too, had it not been for the aforesaid trowzers. However, the ladies, having had more fright than hurt, remounted their steeds, and finished their Bacchanalian revels at a neighbouring village.

As the new year is begun here already, and will be so likewise in England before this comes to your hands; I cannot conclude it more properly, than with the most hearty wishes of many years uninterrupted health and happiness, from

Dear B. Your most affectionate, &c.

L E T T E R XIII.

*To Mr. F. B. M.*DEAR SIR, *Rome, Mar. 2. 1741. N. S.*

O UR folly and madness here has been of late very excessive, tho' not of very long continuance. For, thanks to our holy father, he scattered on wednesday last a few ashes upon us, and ever since we have been pretty sober.

Without farther prologue, you are to know, that the chief scene of our Carnavalian farce, lay in the Corso, one of the grandest streets in Rome, extending for a mile in a direct line up to the Capitol. About two every afternoon, the whole face of things began to be altered, by an universal metamorphosis of men, women, children, horses, asses, &c. Every body, it seems, being dissatisfied with the shape and station, which nature had allotted them, chose an intire alteration, or even a perfect inversion. Some thought themselves, and with reason, too ugly; and others, not ugly enough. Some fancied their bodies placed on the wrong end, and longed to have their heels uppermost; and accordingly their heads, as being the heaviest part, very willingly inclined downwards. The ladies, for the most part, wore the breeches, with gold-clock'd stockings,

stockings, shoes buckled to the toes, a laced coat, and a hat cocked *à la mode de Paris*; many of them having no masks on their pretty, smooth, smock faces, and affecting to stare, strut, and look big. Some indeed performed their part excellently well: but the greater number, having not by sufficient practice worn off that modesty, which is the brightest ornament of the sex, plainly shewed, that they were quite out of their element. A young, handsome lady, I assure you, newly married, sent her compliments to me, desiring the use of a pair of my breeches: but my back-side being unfortunately not so big as hers in circumference, they were returned back unused, and deprived of an extraordinary honour. Among the men, it was extremely difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish a lord from a lackey, or a prince from a pimp. In short, it would be endless, to run through all the different disguises, by which persons had deformed themselves; and to tell you, in what manner this was cloathed, and what beast that imitated by noise and actions. I must therefore desire you to form in your mind as monstrous an idea, as you possibly can, avoiding every thing that is agreeable to nature.—The better sort, (if one may be allowed to distinguish any by that title, among people equally mad) were conveyed up and down the Corso, in open calashes, machines

machines made in the shape of barges, &c. drawn by horses richly caparisoned, and decked with plumes of feathers, bells, &c. attended by harlequins, punchinelloes, Jack-puddings, and the like. In passing they salute one another, by throwing in a genteel manner handfuls of sugar plumbs, &c. The lower gentry, who march on foot, make their salutations, like your ladies of Billingsgate; and when their tongues are put to a non plus, they pelt one another with hard sugar plumbs, as big as nutmegs: which terribly discompose a well powdered peruque, and more cruelly bruise the tender bosoms of the fair; which are displayed in an extraordinary manner on this occasion.

Towards the evening, the coaches and machines are ranged on each side of the Corso, in order to make room for the race of five or six Barbary horses; which, being let loose at the Porto del popolo, run from one end of this long street to the other. Instead of jockeys mounted upon them, the poor beasts have balls stuck with small iron spikes tied to their tails; which at every stretch wound them on their sides or behind, and push them on through the hideous cries and shouts of the multitude. The prize for the horse that wins is a piece of cloth of gold.

When the sun sets, all the world retires: but tho' he be gone to bed, we don't follow his example;

ample; for who can sleep whilst operas, comedies, festins, &c. are in every street? The operas are just in the same unnatural taste, as those in England: and the comedies are still worse, being composed of the most incoherent actions, and unnatural incidents; in which harlequin is continually introduced, to make a wry face, and crack a joke, without the least sense or reason. The festins or balls commence immediately after the operas are over, which is about eleven at night. There are many private festins; but the grand one was this year at the Pamphilia palace in the Piazza Navona. The company consisted of the chief quality, who were all in masquerade: there was dancing in several apartments; but the prime nobility were all in the grand hall. The Chevalier's eldest son was dressed in a Scotch highlander's habit, with a bonnet, target, and broad sword; and adorned with jewels to the value of 100,000 Roman crowns. He opened the ball, and was seconded by his brother; they being both respected here as persons of the first rank. After the minuets, there were several English countrey-dances; in the performance of which, the Roman dames made but an indifferent figure by their heavy motions. They had not the least appearance of that vivacity and agility, by which some of our pretty countrey-women distinguish themselves at our balls, and thereby

thereby compleat the conquest of their eyes upon the hearts of their admirers. Among whom, as I know you to be one; so, in whatever part of the world I am, I shall still profess myself to be another; as well as,

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate friend, &c.

L E T T E R XIV.

To Miss J. R.

DEAR J.

Rome, May 1. 1741. N. S.

THE two greatest obstacles to my inclination and desire to discharge all the duties of a brother, are distance of place, and want of opportunity. The former, according to the present scheme of my studies, cannot be removed for some years: and as to the latter, had my hands the same liberty as my heart, they would not employ themselves in any thing more willingly, than in writing to you. An opportunity has now offered it-self of conveying this letter with more safety, and less expence, than usual: which last article I take to be very material, since even a few pence will be too large a price for any amusement I can send you from this place.

When

When I reflect on my dear friends at home, it seems a long time since I left them : but when I reflect on myself, a year seems to have slipp'd away in a month. It was not long after you left Westminster, that I left England : and I don't doubt, that our sentiments at parting were very much alike ; as I hope they will be, at our meeting again, and that the satisfaction, of which we have been deprived by so long absence, will be then repayed us with interest. The prospect of this contributes to the support of my spirits : while I often make this reflection, that the pleasure which succeeds pain is the greatest ; and that nothing can equal the joy of that moment, which restores two affectionate persons to the conversation of each other. If your present state of life be not in all respects extremely agreeable, (and pray what state is so ?) I dare say you endeavour to make it as agreeable as you can. This is a lesson, which I am continually practising : for I have found by long experience, that fretting and whining avail nothing. I therefore stick close to business, keep my thoughts as much as possible from rambling ; and more especially never let them dwell upon the worst side of things. As I have gained more knowledge, so I have more patience than formerly ; and if I eat less, so I swear less ; and am become both a better Painter, and a better Christian : which double proficiency,

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I assure

I assure you, is not frequently made by one and the same person in this place.

But it is time to conclude this sort of preaching; and to pass to some other subject, which may more agreeably amuse you. Rome affords so many, that I know not upon which to fix as most suitable to your taste. But as I intend to write in a little time to C. to B. and to K. with whom, 'tis likely, you will have an opportunity of comparing notes; I shall at a venture scribble you down a short account of some ceremonies here, in last Passion-week, and on Easter-sunday: which if less entertaining, you will, I hope, meet with somewhat more so in one of my Epistles to them.

On thursday March 30. N. S. the pope went in state to the church of S. Peter: whither he was attended by a great number of guards, both horse and foot, in bright armour, like that in the Tower. His holyness is generally drawn in a most magnificent coach and six; and a fine chair is carried by two white mules, in the manner of a litter behind him; a numerous squadron of cavaliers, with banners flying, swords drawn, or pistols in their hands, following in the rear: so that we may be truly say'd to have here a lively representation of the church militant. As he passes along, the bells toll; the cook leaves his spit; Stitch jumps from his board; and the poor painter,

painter, at the peril of his neck, runs down from his garret, falls on his marrow-bones, and kisses the very stones, which his holyness's coach-wheels have hallowed by passing over them. And on this occasion, one might see young men and maidens, old men and children, kneeling all along the streets for half a mile together: so much respect and reverence do they pay, not only to the sight, but even to the distant approach, of our holy father.

In the palace of the Vatican, close to S. Peter's, is the chapel of Pope SIXTUS V. Here his holyness assisted at high mass; after which, being preceded by the bishops and cardinals, he carried the host in procession, under a canopy supported by eight arch-bishops, into the chapel of pope PAULUS V. which was illuminated with rows of innumerable wax-candles. When the natural body of our Saviour (which they believe the consecrated wafer really to be) was deposited on the altar; the ceremonious actions of the pope and the prelates were so various and numerous, that it is impossible for me to describe them. — From hence his holyness passed into a hall, where were thirteen pilgrims of different nations; who being cloathed in white woollen garments, with square bonnets of the same stuff, were seated on a bench, all in a row. His holyness, having girded himself with a white towel, washed all their feet in a

silver bafon, which was held by the master of the ceremonies; and then kissing them, gave to each two medals of gold, and one of silver, together with a nosegay. They were afterwards conducted into another hall, where a dinner was prepared; during which he him-self waited upon them. — In the evening his holyness returned into the chapel of SIXTUS, where the *Miserere* (LI Psalm) was sung by voices, without any instruments accompanying them; which is accounted one of the finest pieces of music that ever was composed. And really, there is something so solemn, and so affecting in it, that it is beyond expression: and it is so highly esteemed, that the master of the chapel is forbidden, under pain of excommunication, to give a copy of it himself, or to suffer any one to transcribe it.

On Good-friday, I went to S. Peter's, among the rest of the devout people, and was obliged in appearance to do as they did; otherwise, I could not have seen the curiosities which they saw. From an high balcony within the church, were exposed to view the reliques following: The holy handkerchief, on which the print of our blessed Saviour's face came off, when wiped by S. VERONICA, who attended him to his crucifixion; a large piece of the cross, on which he suffered; and the head of the lance, which pierced his side. Every half hour, a priest shewed each of these

to an infinite number of people; who were all on their knees, sighing, groaning, and thumping their breasts below. As for my part, having not been used to such thumping work, since I left Westminster-school, I gaped and stared with all the eyes I had, to discern, if possible, these precious rarities; and yet, even with the assistance of my spectacles, I could not perceive any thing, but a fine rich case, in which they were say'd to be inclosed. So that, for want of a proper degree of faith, I returned home with less imaginary edification and satisfaction, than the rest of the congregation.

Upon Easter-sunday the pope went again to S. Peter's, and celebrated mass: which being ended, he was carried to the large tribune, which is over the piazza of that church; from whence he thundered out the apostolical censures against heretics, casting down at the same time a lighted torch. Immediately after, by the sound of cannon, he gave his benediction twice to all the Roman people. This cursing and blessing, emitted almost in one and the same breath, takes effect, as they say here, throughout the whole world. But as to my-self, I am sure, tho' the pope cursed me that day for an heretic, providence seemed to bless me: for, as I was returning home, considering how many paulis I could spare for a dinner, out of the few I had in my pocket, I very fortunately

unately met our parish-priest, who gave me a hearty invitation, and to such a dinner as *mado my heart full glad.*

This rambling account, dear J. I am afraid, has not answered your expectations; and perhaps I should have entertained you more agreeably, had I led you to the banks of the Tiber, or into the shady groves of some of the neighbouring villas. This I may do another time: at present, I am almost got to the utmost limits of my paper; having but just room enough left to express my wishes and prayers for your welfare and happiness, and to subscribe my-self

Your ever affectionate and loving brother.

LETTER XV.

To Mr. F. B. M.

DEAR SIR, *Rome, June 28. 1741. N. S.*

OUR holy father the pope took possession of the church of S. John de Laterano on the last day of April: but, as that ceremony had nothing very extraordinary in it, I shall make it give way to the following; which was the most grand and magnificent spectacle, which I have seen since I have been in this place.

On the 1st Inst. being the Festa del Corpus Domini, the pope sung mass in the chapel of the palace of the Vatican; after which, he carried the host through the church of S. PETER, and
the

the suburbs adjacent. He was immediately preceded by persons, who bore three tiaras, and three mitres, enriched with pearls and diamonds of infinite value; and was surrounded by the officers of his chamber, and an hundred Swiss guards all in brilliant armour. His holyness, whose head was uncovered, was placed on a machine supported by eight men, with a desk before him; on which he reposed *il sole*, which contained the consecrated wafer. His cope, which was of silver tissue very finely wrought, was so wide, and covered the whole desk and seat, in such a manner, that he seemed to be upon his knees. Two large fans, called *ventiere*, stuck on two poles, were carried on each side one, to keep off the flies from incommoding his holyness, and interrupting his devotion; which was painted in the liveliest manner on his countenance. All the cardinals, arch-bishops, Roman nobility, religious orders, confraternities, &c. attended, dressed in their proper habits; and the chevaliers closed the procession of the church militant.

I am just now come from S. Peter's, where the Haquenée, or Spanish genet, was presented to the pope. It has been always the custom to conduct this Spanish lady into the church, to pay her respects to his holyness: but this time she stumbled at the door, fell down, and could by no means be persuaded to go any farther. Various are the conjectures upon this accident: some affirming,

affirming, that it was want of good breeding; and that the Dons had not taken care to educate her *à la mode*; others, that she was resolved to shew more respect to the holyness of the place, than of the pope; but all concluding that it was a bad omen. For my part, I am apt to think, that some German smith had shoed her, and out of a spirit of revenge had pared her hoofs too close. I leave you to judge of the probability of this conjecture of, dear Sir,

Yours most affectionately, &c.

LETTER XVI.

To Dr. R.

DEAR DOCTOR, *Rome, Sept. 28. 1741. N. S.*

LIKE one, who has gone through the greatest part of a severe penance, and begs to have the rest remitted, I now at last venture to take my pen in hand; in order to beg your pardon in the first place, and in the next, a discontinuance of your silence, which has kept me in so long a state of mortification. Notwithstanding which, I cannot but reckon the day I left England to be one of the most fortunate of my past life; since it has not only given me frequent occasion of reflecting seriously upon my-self, but has likewise made me sensible of the true value of the friends I left behind me. For as continual converse is apt to cool in some degree the fervour of
our

our affections ; so absence, especially at so great a distance, rekindles the flame, and excites an ardent desire of a speedy reunion. In me, I am sure, it has had this effect ; inasmuch, that had not irresistible necessity clapt clogs upon my legs, you would have seen them perhaps cut a caper at your wedding. I can now only congratulate you on the consummation of this grand affair : which I heartily wish you may find attended with all the happiness ever enjoyed by the most fortunate husband ; and of which, from the many good qualities of your spouse, and the many tokens of her great affection for you, I think you have the most clear and unclouded prospect.

But while you are thus agreeably entertained both with the present and the future, I hope, you will not look upon this as a disagreeable interruption ; which gives some account, how your brother, tho' destitute of all your enjoyments, and struggling with many difficulties, yet finds at leisure hours frequent matter to amuse and divert him-self. A person, who loves the *virtù*, is never at a loss for diversion here : for he can enter no church or palace, tho' ever so often, but he will always discover somewhat new to excite his admiration, in the architecture, sculpture, or painting.—Some English gentlemen arrive here annually, amongst whom are generally one or two of our old school-fellows ; with whom I take care to renew my acquaintance : this I have lately done

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I

with

with the lords M. and Q. Sir R. N. Mr. D. and Mr. CASTLETON ; the last of whom generously took me with him to Naples, in company with the E. of L.

Mr. PITT and Mr. HOLDSWORTH, an old acquaintance of my father's, who travels with him as his tutor, have shewed me very extraordinary civilities, the whole time they have been here : which I shall always remember and acknowledge with the greatest gratitude. The young gentleman, whose good qualities are answerable to his great fortune, does not squander away his time and money, as too many of our wild young sparks do, in drinking, gaming, &c. but studies very much, and diverts himself with music and drawing ; in which last he has made such proficiency, that were he in our Academy, I should soon grow jealous of him.

With these two gentlemen I went on thursday se'n-night to see the curiosities at Tivoli, eighteen miles from Rome ; called by HORACE * *Tibur supinum*, being situated on the Sabine hills. This was the retirement of some of the most illustrious old Romans : and one sees at present the remains of the villas of QUINTILIUS VARUS, MAECENAS, and HORACE, and of the Villa Adriana. Just above the town, the river Teverone rushes down a precipice fifty feet high ; and is therefore
by

* 3. OD. iv. 23. " Lying along the brow of a hill : as VIRGIL perhaps for the same reason entitles it *superbum*." ADDISON'S *Remarks*, &c. 12MO. p. 214.

by HORACE called * *Praecepta Anio*. Immediately after its fall, it divides into two streams: of which, one takes a compass on one side of Tivoli; and the other, being lost in a gulph, runs in several channels about the town, and then rising comes to the Palazzo d'Este; in the gardens of which it works a fine organ, several fountains, &c. in a very surprising manner. But the most delightful prospect is, where it throws itself down from these gardens, which are upon an exceeding high eminence, and divides itself into several cascades, falling from one rock to another, till it joins the other arm of the river. On a rising ground opposite to the first cascade, stand † the ruins of the temple and house of the || SIBYLLA TIBURTINA.

In our return, coming down into the Campania, we turned a mile out of the road to see the lake ‡ Solforata. It seemed to be vastly deep,

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* 1. OD. vii. 13. not *Praecepta Anienus*, as in MISSEN. Vol. II. Pt. i. p. 66. STATIUS indeed calls it *Praecepta Anien*. 1. *Silv.* V. 25.

† In the Margin of MISSEN, it is remarked, "Others pretend that it was a Temple of HERCULES" Mr. ADDISON says, "I could not discover the least traces of the SIBYL'S temple and grove." p. 214

|| The *Tenth* SIBYL, and, according to some, the same with the goddesses ALBUNA or ALBUNEA; called likewise LEUCOTHEA, and MATUTA.

‡ "Lacus Albunus now called Lago de Bagni. The late cardinal d'Este persuaded two divers to enter into it: one of whom was never afterwards seen; and the other related, that he found the water so hot, tho' at the surface it is cold, that he was not able to descend to any considerable depth." MISSEN, Vol. II Part ii. p. 67.

and is strongly impregnated with sulphur, which makes the stench of it very disagreeable. I threw several stones into it, which caused the water to bubble up, like the boiling in a kettle, for half an hour afterwards. There are several * floating islands in it, which shift their places according to the change of the wind. Being covered with reeds, &c. they are very deceitful: and had we not been warned by the snorting of our horses, we might have driven our chaise upon them un-awares, which we were told we might have safely done; but we did not chuse to make the experiment, nor to continue long upon † the ground about the lake, which sounded under our horses feet, as if it had been hollow. This lake gives rise to a sulphureous rivulet, formerly called *Albula*, which runs through part of the Campania.

Rome is at present very barren of news: for want therefore of a pleasanter and better subject, I shall give you a short account of the execution of a criminal, the other day, just by my lodgings. — About two months ago, a person was found murdered in the stables of the pope's palace:

* Named by the people *The Sixteen Boats*. *ibid*.

† "I question not but this lake was formerly much larger than it is at present, and that the banks have grown over it by degrees, in the same manner as the islands have been form'd on it. Nor is it improbable but that, in process of time, the whole surface may be crusted over, as the islands enlarge themselves, and the banks close in upon them. All about the lake, where the ground is dry, we found it to be hollow by the trampling of our horses feet." ADDISON, p. 214.

lace : on which, two fellows suspected of the fact were taken up, and put to the rack, in order to extort a confession from them ; without which no one can suffer here, tho' direct evidences appear against him. Onely one of them confessed, and was condemned : and on execution-day, hundreds of odd dismal figures, in long black gowns, their faces covered with black cloth in the shape of a mask, marched through all the streets, rattling a money-box, to move charitable persons to contribute something towards prayers for the deliverance of the poor sufferer's soul out of purgatory. A long train of these sable petitioners preceded the miserable wretch ; immediately before whom was carried a crucifix, with a black covering over it, and lights all round him. He was seated in a cart betwixt two priests ; who with two of their hands supported him, and with the other two held a tablet close to his face, having a Madonna painted on one side. Being brought upon the scaffold, close to which a gibbet was erected, his face was covered with black crape ; and being ordered to kneel down, the executioner instantly knock'd him on the head with a mallet, and then cut his throat. After this, his accomplice was likewise brought upon the scaffold, and tied to a post ; while the hangman quartered the other before his face, and hung up his limbs on the gibbet, where they remained 'till night : he was afterwards sent to the galleys
for

for life. I stood within ten yards of the scaffold : and to add to the horror of the spectacle, it rained, lightened, and thundered, more than ever I saw it do at this place ; where violent tempests are very frequent.

Tho' to you, who have hanged and dissected so many dogs, and seen the dissection of so many felons and murderers, this description may not be so extremely shocking ; yet I think it is time to leave it, and to recall my thoughts to that agreeable subject, with which they were just now entertained, I mean your late nuptials. To hasten my compliments on which was the chief occasion of the present dispatch. And since Miss W from a mere nominal sister, is become a real one according to law, pray give my kindest respects and love to her, as from a brother who wishes her all felicity imaginable. Happy are you, Doctor, who, residing in your native country, have met with no insuperable difficulties there in obtaining the object of your desires. As for me, poor wretch, were I ever so deeply enamoured with a fair lady here, and ever so well received by her ; so long as I am a heretic, the holy Inquisition would never permit us two to be one flesh. She indeed has liberty to make a convert of me ; but I none at all to make one of her. But as I have hitherto met with no Roman lass, that has charms sufficient to make me adore, not only her person, but likewise the Madonnas, and
all

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all the little household gods, with which her bed-chamber is furnished : so I am certain I shall never meet with any, for the sake of whose conversion, I shall run the risque of double walls, racks, gibbets, fanbenitoes, and flames. I am,

Dear Doctor,

Your most, &c.

L E T T E R XVII.

To Miss C. R.

DEAR C.

Rome, May 1. 1741. N. S.

I Would not upon any account let slip this opportunity of shewing you, that I wanted not any previous epistolary notice to put me in remembrance of you. If my recollection be right, you used to say, you should have been glad to have accompanied me into this part of the world. And if other circumstances had been agreeable, the want of breeches, I assure you, would have been no great obstacle : for we have English ladies here, who have scorned the danger of the seas, made their way over the Alpes, and climbed to the top of mount Vesuvius. Nor do I at all wonder at it : for neither mountains, nor seas, nor sex, should have hindered me from visiting such an entertaining place ; where architecture, painting, and music are in the utmost perfection. It would require a week, to take notice of all the beauties and riches, in one common church ; and above a month, to survey those of S. Peter's ; and

con-

consequently it would take up volumes to describe them. I shall therefore leave you for the present to form an idea of them, when I have told you, that marble, gilding, and painting are disposed in the most beautiful manner all round the insides of them; and that images of silver, decked with the most costly jewels, adorn the altars. At some leisure time, I intend to take down a description of the immense riches of a grand altar in the church of the Jesuits, and transmit it to England, as a specimen of the rest.

On S. LUKE's day, who, you know, is our patron, I went to the church of that Evangelist, and to the grand academy of painting: for in honour of him my fore-fathers of the brush have built a noble church, and a large academy room near it. In the former was performed some very fine music; and in the latter were exposed to view pictures, designs, drawings, &c. by the most eminent hands. I saw there a fine picture in miniature by ROSALBA CARRIERA, a Venetian; who was a few years ago solemnly admitted and register'd amongst the academicians, for her excellence in painting portraits. She is still living at Venice, and has drawn the picture of that most worthy young gentleman GEORGE PITT, Esq; which you will have an opportunity of seeing, and

There is a good portrait of the king of Sardinia lately done in mezzo tinto by Mr BURFORD, from an original painting by CLEMENTINA at Turin, in the possession of his Excellency the Chevalier OSSORIO.

and may thereby judge of her manner. This living example, who is a demonstrative proof of what your sex is capable, will incite you, I hope, to proceed with industry and chearfulness in drawing; in which I don't doubt that you have made by this time a considerable progress. I have often wondered, that scarce any of your sex in England apply themselves to this profession; especially since, if their circumstances are narrow, they can have no resource in a convent; which is always open to ladies of small, as well as great, fortune in this country. The ceremony of the admittance of one, which I saw at Naples, may not perhaps be altogether unentertaining; at least, I will take care, that it shall not be tedious.

This I call the ceremony of sacrificing a victim at a nunnery: for I can't help calling that poor creature such, whom either the determination of her friends, or her own poverty, compells to live immured from the sight and converse of the world. The church of the convent was hung all over with red velvet trimmed with gold; and the altar decked out with silver candle-sticks, and images of saints set round with jewels, &c. The father, a Neapolitan nobleman, attended; and, as the quality and gentry here are remarkably civil and obliging to strangers, shewed me the habit his daughter was going to put on; which was made of a coarse black stuff. A chair and a desk with a velvet cushion were placed before the altar,

there being no such things as pews in the churches of Italy. Hither the victim was conducted by two of her brothers, where she payed her devotions; whilst music played, on all sides, to raise her spirits to the utmost height, and transport her affections from all things here below, at the celebration of her celestial nuptials. Her wedding-garment was as fine as possible, being a large robe of the richest silk, embroidered with flowers of gold; and she had a coronet on her head, adorned with roses and jewels. She appeared cheerful, as one that was pleased with the approaching change of her condition: yet there was something, I know not what, of too serious a concern in her countenance, which now and then seemed to cast a little cloud over her gaiety. Having taken the proper oaths administered by the priest, she was conducted by two ladies, her nearest relations, to the great door of the convent; where, having saluted them both at parting, she entered, and the door was immediately shut. She knocked afterwards, as I was informed, at an inner door; which being opened, she was received by the abbess, and her fellow prisoners, who stripped off her fine raiment, and put on the homespun dress above-mentioned.

Dear C. don't you think it terrible, for a young lady, with a soft and delicate skin, to wear a dress as rough as that of a bear, to lye on a bed of straw, to peep through iron-glass-windows,

as

as the Irishman called them; and, what is worse than all, to be forced, against inclination and nature, to die a maid? It grieves me, I am sure, to the heart; and I often wish my-self a real knight errand, that I might deliver some of these distressed damsels out of their enchanted castles. You ladies, in the northern part of the world, have reason to bless your-selves, that you are intirely secure from any such Lob's-pounds as these. Don't therefore indulge your-selves in the ill-natured pleasure of tormenting your poor lovers, keeping your hearts shut up as it were in a cloister; lest in the decline of your charms you should fall under a real monastic judgment; in a place, where you can have none of the conveniencies, so common here, and so proper for that solitary state.

It has frequently given me no small concern, to see the odd figure, which is made by many elderly maiden ladies among you; some of whom still retained evident marks of their former beauty, together with a genteel and graceful air. Their vain endeavours to repair or conceal the injuries of time; their affected and unnatural gaiety; their entering with so much eagerness into the most usual subjects of conversation, as fashions, news, scandal, &c. their fondness for operas, plays, cards, &c. and their unwillingness to lose their share of any prevailing vanity; continually expose them to the sneers of the younger part of

their own sex, and to the ridicule of ours. How much better would it be, were there proper places of retirement in your country, like those here; where they might find a refuge from all these inconveniencies, and spend the remainder of their days in employments and diversions more suitable to their sex and age! But then, this retreat should be voluntary, free from all rigid austerities, and not rendered unalterable by irrevocable vows.—But whether it be your lot to continue in the hurry of public life, or to withdraw to a more private scene; painting may be of great advantage to you in the former, and will be a very agreeable amusement in the latter. It will certainly secure you from falling into those common, ridiculous ways of *killing Time*, to which a great number of your sex, are forced to have recourse: and therefore, out of the sincerest regard for your well-fare and happiness, it is again most earnestly recommended to your practice, by,

Dear C. Your most affectionate brother, &c.

L E T T E R XVIII.

To Miss E. R.

DEAR B.

Rome, Ju'y 1. 1741. N. S.

IT is with great pleasure, that I embrace this opportunity of conveying, I hope, safe to your hands the following trifles.—Some of the
current

current Roman coins, and S. PETER's Pence.—Four pair of gloves of the newest fashion, worn in Lilliput; pack'd up in walnut shells.—Six *Rosarii* or setts of beads, of different sorts, which the Roman ladies use in their devotions, to prevent mistakes as to the number of their prayers.—A white cord, given me by some nuns at Viterbo, who shewed me the body of SANTA ROSA, lay'd out in great state, adorned with jewels, &c. and presented me with the cord, which had touch'd those sacred remains, as a preservative against misfortunes, &c.

After you have taken your choice, give one pair of the gloves, with one sett of the beads to each of my sisters; and let my friend Mr. M. have one of the latter, which may not be a disagreeable present from him to some young lady of his acquaintance.

When I saw the ceremony of admitting a nun at Naples, of which I lately gave C. a short account, I omitted to procure the *Sonnet* performed on that occasion. To supplie this deficiency, I have sent you the following, printed on silk, in honour of a nun who took the veil at Bologna. That you may have some notion of the sense of the Italian verses, I have imitated them in English metre, after the manner of those famous translators of the *Psalms*, STERNHOLD and HOPKINS, keeping as close to the original as possible; and as to a proper tune you cannot be at a loss, since so many will sute them.

APPLAU-

APPLAUDESI alla M. R. M. SUOR
MARIA CROCEFISSA DI S. ROSA,
al secolo SIGNORA

ROSA MARIA AZZAROLI,
che professa nel nobile Monistero
delle CARMELITANE DI S. TERESA

DI MEDICINA ;

col seguente Sonetto,

*in segno di distintissima venerazione Dedicato al
Nobil' Uomo Sig.*

GIANANTONIO VASE' PIETRAMELLARA,
dalle stesse Reverende MADRI CARMELITANE.

Alludefi a S. TERESA, che fu ferita dall' Angelo.

QUEL Serafin, che collo stral' d'Amore
Volando pel CARMEL feri TERESA,
Lasciolla in sù del Suol piagata, e accesa,
E all' alto Ciel rappinne il nobil Cuore :

Torna

A very ingenious and learned young Gentleman, who has travelled, was pleased to communicate the following Remark and Translation —“ Tho' this instance may be proper enough to shew a foreign custom ; yet it would be an injury, I think, to the modern Italian poetry to produce this as a specimen of it. These are a sort of occasional productions, that seldom live above a day in their own country : they are distributed in the convent among the young lady's friends ; and perhaps two or three stuck upon the gates towards the street, where they generally last as long as our Play-bills in London. The Author is usually some Poet of the street ; and I believe, in constant pay from the convent, to supply it with Panegyricks on these occasions, at so much a piece.—As what is annexed did not cost me above half a hour, it is no compliment to tell you, that you may do what you please with it. I am sure, neither the Original, nor Translation is worth criticism ; so am very safe whatever use you put it to.

As

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In honour of the very reverend Matron, SISTER
 MARIA CROCEFISSA DI S. ROSA,
 [while] in the world [called] SIGNORA
 ROSA MARIA AZZAROLI,
 entering into the noble Monastery
 of the CARMELITES of S. TERESA
 DI MEDICINA ;
 the following Sonnet,

*in token of the most profound veneration,
 is inscribed to the noble Signor*

GIANANTONIO VASE' PIETRAMELLARA,
 by the say'd Reverend CARMELITISH MATRONS.

Alluding to S. TERESA, who was wounded by the Angel.

THAT Seraph, who, o'er Carmel flying,
 TERESA wounded with Love's dart,
 And left on earth in ardours dying,
 But snatch'd to heav'n her noble heart ;

This

As arm'd with heav'nly Love's flame-pointed dart
 O'er Carmel's top the glowing Seraph flew ;
 He pierc'd divine TERESA's throbbing heart,
 Celestial prize, no more to earth's low raptures due.

To-day the same bright messenger returns ;
 With like success th' unerring shaft he tries :
 Behold ! on Carmel prostrate, ROSA burns,
 Heav'n's holy victim now, she languishes and dies.

Wonder not then, if to these sacred walls
 Her God devoted CROCEFISSA calls ;
 Since by the Mother's flame the pious Daughter falls.

Alike the zeal, which each fair bosom fires ;
 Their flight from earth Celestial Love inspires :
 One dies by Heav'n's own Darts, and One by Heav'n's Desires."
 S. TERESA

Torna quest' oggi in somigliante ardore
 A replicar la sì grandiosa impresa,
 ROSA serisce, e nel CARMEL professa
 Fatta Vittima al Ciel e langue, e muore.

Non fia dunque stupor se oggi ci viene
 CROCEFISSA al suo Dio : ah che ne moti
 Alla MADRE la FIGLIA egual diviene !

D'ambi quest' Alme sono simil le Doti,
 Ad amendue vuota l'Amor le vene ;
 L'una uccide col Stral', l'altra co' Voti.

Del Sig. Francesco Rezi.

In BOLOGNA, per Clemente Maria Saffi Successore del
 Benacci. 1738. *Con licenza de' Superiori.*

S. TERESA of JESUS, born at Avila in Spain, Mar. 28. 1515. died Oct. 4. 1582. canonized by GREGORY XV. Her Festival is celebrated Oct. 15. The following curious account of the extraordinary Adventure, alluded to in the *Sonnet*, is given by her-self, in a Book intitled, *The Works of the Holy Mother St. TERESA of JESUS, Foundress of the Reformation of the Discalced Carmelites. Translated into English*, 4to. 1675. Part II. Chap. XXIX. p. 206, 207.

" It pleased our Lord, that I have had sometimes this following Vision. I saw an Angel very near me, towards my left side, in a corporeal form . . . He was not great, but rather little, very beautiful ; his face so inflamed, that he appeared to be one of those most Superiour Angels, who seem to be all on fire ; and he well might be of them whom they call Seraphims . . . I saw that he had a long Dart of gold in his band,

This day returning, with like flame
Repeats as grand an enterprife ;
He ROSA wounds ; the prostrate Dame
On Carmel languishes and dies.

No wonder then, that here retires
This Victim crucify'd to God ;
Since the same zeal the Daughter fires
To tread the path the Mother trod.

In both these Souls like Graces shone ;
Of Both Love empties every vein :
The onely difference this, that One
By Darts, and One by Vows is slain.

By Sig. Francesco Rezi.

At BOLOGNA by Clement Maria Saffi Successor of
Benacci 1738. *With the licence of Superiours.*

hand, and at the end of the iron below, me thought there was a little fire ; and I conceived that he thrust it several times through my heart, after such a manner, as that it passed my very bowels ; and when he drew it forth, me thought it pulled them out with it, and left me wholly inflamed with a great love of God. The pain of it was so great, that it forced me to utter such groanes, and the suavity which that extremity of pain caused me so excessive, that there was no desiring to be rid of it ; nor is the Soul then contented with less than God himself. This is no corporal, but a spiritual pain ; though yet the Body do not fail to participate some, yea a great part thereof . . . During the time when I was in this state, I went up and down, like one transported, neither cared I, either to see or to speak, but only to be consumed and burnt up with my pain, which was a greater glory to me, than any can be found in the creatures."

LETTER XIX.

*To Mrs. R.*HON. MADAM, *Rome, Dec. 2. 1741. N. S.*

ON tuesday I had the pleasure of rummaging over the box, which came from England; which I did with the more eagerness, as knowing there was a letter in it from you. That, with what accompanied it, is in my opinion so far from being a small token of your love, that I think mere words of thanks can by no means be a sufficient return: but as I have at present nothing else in my power, I hope my gratitude will be accepted in good part, by my father, and all the family, who have shewn me their affection by their letters and presents.

In sending JENKIN's *Reasonableness of Christianity* along with KING's *Heathen Gods*, I will not suppose, that my Father was apprehensive lest I should believe in the heathen, rather than the Christian religion; but for fear I should believe in none at all. For tho' I must acknowledge, that they have many excellent customs here; yet have they some, which appear to me, not onely absurd and ridiculous, but contrary to the plain commandments of God. Religious disputes are very dangerous, which I therefore decline; not
in

in the least afraid of their arguments, but of their power: for there are spies in almost all places, and companies, and it is a matter of conscience to confess every thing, which we heretics say against their religion. And such a false notion have the priests, out of policy, instilled into the minds of their people, that they imagine we do not really believe in JESUS CHRIST; and therefore they make little or no distinction betwixt a Turk and an English-man. — I attended my master the other day, while he was painting the portrait of a nun; and he ordered me to chalk the place round her feet, that she might stand exactly in the same light the next day: this I had no sooner done, but a servant run for some holy water to sprinkle her; thereby plainly intimating, that by onely touching her feet I had polluted an holy vessel dedicated to JESUS CHRIST.—In short, I can sincerely assure you, that the more I converse with the Romanists, and the oftner I enter their churches, the more strongly am I fortified against their errors.

It is no small satisfaction to me to find, that most young gentlemen, who come hither, shew so great a regard for the art which I studie, as not only to admire and endeavour to understand it in theory, but even to amuse and divert themselves in the exercise and practice of it. On holidays, and at other times, when a recess from my

business will permit, I take every opportunity of accompanying gentlemen to see the palaces, &c. for as those grand doors flie open only to the rich, I am glad to follow them as their shadow, and to crowd in as one of their attendants.

Your curiosity, Madam, no doubt, will expect to find some-thing here concerning the Chevalier, and his two sons.—The father is tall of stature, but thin; and has a grave countenance, seeming inclined to melancholy; yet in his conversation is good-natured, affable, and chearful. He passes all his time in a very regular manner: rising early, he spends the morning in business, hears mass at a set hour, and dines at twelve. He often walks in the fine gardens at Rome, especially those of the Villa Borgheza: in the evening, he receives visits, sups at ten, and goes to bed about mid-night. Tho' he may seem very unfortunate to the world, in some respects, yet he enjoys the blessing of two most amiable sons.

The elder has a very graceful presence, and engaging manner; the younger is very comely and sprightly. Their exterior ornaments of body are equally matched by those of the mind: to cultivate which, they have set hours for their studies, when they learn every thing proper for persons of their quality; and, with a sufficient knowledge of the most learned dead languages, they speak English, French, and Italian perfectly well. Their
Diver-

L E T T E R X X .

77

Diversions are manly and rational: the one takes great delight in riding, hunting, and other exercises: and the other, besides these, loves music and painting, and both sings and draws very well. In short, the gracefulness of their persons is admired by all, who onely see them; and those that converse with them, are still more charmed with their good sense, good nature, and excellent temper. This character is not contradicted by any gentleman of candor here, tho' ever so much prejudiced against them by religious or political principles.

I am, Honoured Madam,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R X X .

To Miss K. R.

DEAR K.

Rome, Jan. 15. 1742. N. S.

TH O' you are the least of the family, you are not, I can assure you, the least in my thoughts: for I often recollect your pretty diverting humours, which make me smile; and methinks, I even now see you going against your will to open the door, or about some work which you do not like. But hoping, that, as you are now more advanced in years, you are likewise advancing more and more beyond those lower occupa-

occupations; and are consequently better employed in seeking after knowledge without doors; I cannot but imagine, you may have a curiosity to be informed of some things that lye at a great distance from your native countrey. It would give you, 'tis probable, some pleasure, to hear of some pretty Roman Miss, who may vie with those of Westminster, in working a sample, or bordering a petticoat. But really I am at a loss, where to find her; and believe there are hardly any, except in nunneries, who know how to threadle a needle. But then they have other qualifications, which make a greater show; which they learn very soon, and practise in great perfection. For before they are in their teens, they are swelled out *à la mode* in silk sacks, large hoops, tippets, &c. They are very expert in courtesying and crossing themselves in churches with a genteel air; and in saying a *Pater Noster*, and an *Ave Maria*, which they don't understand; and perhaps I write in such a manner, that I am not understood my-self; therefore here follows an explanation.

As soon as good old Madam and hopeful young Miss enter a church, each dips a finger in holy water, which always stands ready blest in a font at the door; and crosses herself on the fore-head and breast, in a much genteeler manner, than you ever saw, or can imagine. They next
proceed

proceed with a grave step, and a demure face, up to the altar; where they immediately fall down on their marrow-bones, and with much slight of hand cross themselves again, &c. Then they commence their prayers, that seem directed to an image of the virgin MARY; which is drest out in the richest robes, having in her arms a baby, representing our blessed Saviour, adorned with roses, beads, and jewels. So that they must have a very intense and abstracted devotion, if their thoughts, as well as their eyes, be not fixed on the glaring objects before them; which will be more apt to excite in them a desire for the riches of this world, than for those of the other. For what English Miss could forbear wishing for such fine babies as these? which are decked out with such costly ornaments, that the finest Doil, belonging to a young lady of the first quality in England, would not appear worthy to be an attendant on the babies here, when even in their *deshabillé*. A picture of a Madonna, that is, of the blessed Virgin and our Saviour in her arms, is hung up almost at every corner in the streets. Here every evening an *Ave Maria* is sung, with an Invocation to all the saints; while the streets ring with an *Ora pro nobis*, sent out of the mouth of children kneeling round, and repeating it together as loud as they can bawl. As I am obliged

to

to write Latin, I must beg the favour of W. or C. to tell you the meaning of it.

Having transmitted to my other sisters some accounts of several of the grand festivals, so pompously celebrated here; I shall give you likewise a short relation of a few remarkable ceremonies, that very lately distinguished one. You have not, I believe, forgot the old song,

——— *Christmas is a coming;*

We shall have piping, dancing, drumming.

Therefore you may imagine, that we, who will allow no others but our-selves to be true Christians, rejoiced and feasted accordingly. But, alas, I found, that the Roman Madams had never heard of, or else abhorred, as heretical, that charming and laudable custom of having good hot minc'd-pyes, to the no small mortification of your poor brother; who, you may remember, had an excellent hand, or rather mouth, in demolishing them. But to come to my story.—At the feast of the Epiphany, there were not onely extraordinary illuminations, music, &c. in their churches, as on other great solemnities; but there was also, in particular, what they call in Italian *Il presepio*, that is, *The Stable*; which is represented by painted figures in the manner following. The virgin MARY, with all the tendernefs of a mother, sits by the infant JESUS lying in a manger, while JOSEPH stands beside her. Behind are represent-
ed

ed cattle, and other things proper to a stall or stable. On one side, appear shepherds entering, with presents of lambs, &c. on the other, the wise men of the east, with richer offerings : some of the latter, as well as of the former, are kneeling ; and the rest in postures of admiration. In short, the lights and figures were disposed in such proper order, and the whole executed with such art and ingenuity, that it had a very beautiful effect. The onely impropriety was, that the fine dresses set off with jewels, which our Saviour, the Virgin, and JOSEPH wore, did not seem to agree very well with so humble a lodging as a stable, and so poor a cradle as a manger.

Whilst I was keeping my eyes intent upon this raree-show, I was suddenly surpris'd at the sound of a shrill voice on one side of me. I look'd round, and saw a Lilliputian divine, no bigger than JEMMY C. when he first put on breeches, mounted in a little pulpit just fit for his size. His text was the painted scene before us : from which he took occasion to set forth, in the most pompous expressions, the great humility of our blessed Saviour, and the stupendous happiness mankind obtained by it. He had neither cushion to loll upon, nor notes to refresh his memory ; but went on in an upright, active posture, as it were extempore, with the greatest courage and spirit, and without the least stop or hesitation. But this is counted no extraordinary matter here : for the

boys and girls, as soon as they can speak plain, prattle and run on with so much assurance, that they would make nothing of a Westminster kid. — I hope all the little Misses and Masters about S. JOHN's are well; if it be not an affront to call those so, who are in their teens. Pray, give my service to JEMMY C. and to sweet Miss POLLY: to the former, upon your account, as well as my own; to the latter, solely upon that of

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

L E T T E R XXI.

To Mr. W. R.

DEAR W. *Rome, April 18. 1742. N. S.*

I Would by no means let slip this opportunity of gratefully returning an instance of my affection to you, by the very same hands, which brought yours to me. He that has little, can send but little; and this being my case, you must not expect, that the agreeable letters, which I receive from England, can be repayed by any equivalent from hence. Did I converse more with the living, you might expect something from me, worth the expence and reading: but my misfortune is, that tho' I keep the best of company, they are such as neither see, move, nor speak. In short, they are onely the shadows of men, &c. that were in being many hundreds of years ago, ranged in a long gallery, the most proper

proper scene for silence and study. As for your part, you have an inexhaustible fund of news, consisting of politics, trade, business, &c. Your streets are crowded with all sorts of people, who all, from the merchant down to the porter, can tell what JACK Spaniard is a doing, or even the pope of Rome with all his infallibility, better than himself. Ours ring not with the sound of *Great News in the London Gazette*, nor with the hideous cries of *horrid, barbarous, bloody and inhuman murders; executions, last dying speeches*, &c. so that our near neighbours may have their throats cut, or be hang'd, and we never the wiser. In my walks, indeed, I now and then light of some-thing, which seems extraordinary to me, tho' not accounted so here.

Passing by a church, the other day, I observed a fat fellow, sitting on the steps, very jovial, with a bottle of wine, and other provisions. Upon inquiry, I found, that 'twas not the fear of God, but of Jack Catch, which had brought him to that place of devotion: having stabbed a woman big with child, he had fled thither for refuge. And so jealous and tenacious are the priests here of their privileges, that with what ill consequence soever the insisting upon them may be attended, rather than suffer them to be in the least infringed, they will protect the most notorious villains: a most flagrant instance of which I'll give you.— Just before the Carnaval, a young fellow stabb'd

another to the heart in the Capitol, and fled immediately to a church just by; from whence being taken out by particular orders, he was tried, and condemned. In the mean time, the clergy of that church, having commenced a suit against the judge, for breach of privileges, cast him; and not onely obliged him to send the criminal back, but afterwards, by disguising him in a masquerade dress, found means to convey him safe away out of the reach of justice.

His holyness proves a greater encourager of the *virtù*, than was expected: he lately bought three fine statues, which were found at Tivoli about three years ago; and has placed them in the Capitol. One of them is an Egyptian God, twice as big as the life, and the onely one of the kind which I have seen in white marble; another is an *Antinous*; and the third, the God of silence.— He has lately repaired the fine Corinthian pillar, which stands before the church of S. MARIA Maggiore; on the top of which is the image of the Virgin MARY, with her son in her arms, in gilt bras. One of the corners of the capital had been stricken off by lightening. The pillar itself is of one intire piece of marble, and was taken from the ruins of the temple of peace. They are likewise at present building a new portico to the church.—In digging at a place called *il Monte Citorio*, in order to make a foundation for an antique pedestal with figures in basso rilievo,

relievo, they met with an old Roman pavement, lying about thirty foot deep: which is one proof, among a great many others, what strange alterations this city has undergone since the time of its ancient grandeur.

Happy W. are you, who, having almost run through your seven years course of servitude, have now a very near prospect of the agreeable state of liberty. As for my case, I can't help comparing it to that of an idiot; who, admiring one day the heavens, painted with such variety of beautiful colours, was seized with the ambitious thought of climbing up to those glorious mansions. In order to which, casting his eyes about, he saw a high mountain at a great distance, which he imagined reached to the skies. Thither he made all possible haste, and after much fatigue gained the summit; when, to his great surprise, he discovered on the other side new vallies, between new hills and mountains rising one beyond another, which he despaired to transcend. However, I keep plodding on, now and then a little brisker than ordinary, like an ass, when plentifully fed; but if provisions fail, I am forced to turn aside out of my road, and mumble a thistle. This will consequently make my journey longer, and more tedious: so that, when the Doctor and you have got about half a dozen children each, and not before, you may expect to see the face of,

Dear W.

Your most affectionate, &c.

L E T T E R

LETTER XXII.

*To Mr. R.*HONOURED SIR, *Rome, May 1. 1742. N.S.*

AS I know, that the rectifying of old mistakes, and any new discovery in ancient literature, used to give you no small pleasure, I am fully persuaded, that the paper I here send will not be unacceptable; more especially, as it was communicated to me by your learned friend at this place, in order to be transmitted to you. In transcribing which, if I shall have committed some errors, I hope you will be so good as to excuse them.

It contains a Greek inscription in old Ionic characters upon two pillars, which were first discovered near the sepulchre of METELLA, in the Appian way, and thence removed into the gardens of the palace Farnese; on which account they took the name of the Farnesian columns. Both GRUTER and MONTFAUCON have published this inscription; but neither of them with that accuracy, which might have been expected. In the delineation here sent, the form of the letters is exactly expressed: concerning the antiquity of which, the manner in which they are ranged, and the peculiarities belonging to them, it will be proper, in the first place, to make some short observations.

JOSEPH

JOSEPH SCALIGER is of opinion, that the use of these Ionic characters, by a kind of constant succession, was continued down to the time of HERODES ATTICUS. But * MONTFAUCON asserts, “ that no traces of them are to be found, except in marbles of very great antiquity, erected before the age of ALEXANDER the Great. And his opinion is, that HERODES ATTICUS, who flourished long in the time of TRAJAN, and of the succeeding Emperors, being a learned man, and a great lover of antiquity, took particular care, that among the many inscriptions which ennobled his Villa Triopia, this also, exhibiting the old Ionic letters, might eminently appear engraved on these columns.”

The two parts of this inscription are represented both by † GRUTER and MONTFAUCON, as put upon different parts of each pillar; onely with this variation, that in one the lines are longer, and consequently fewer in number, having more letters in them, than the lines in the other. So that the whole inscription is repeated, and one column is only a duplicate of the other: whereas, in reality, the one contains the longer inscription, and the other the shorter.— And even as to the shape of the letters, there is a good deal of difference

* *Palaeographia Graeca. Par. 1708. Fol. p. 141.*

† JANI GRUTERI *Corpus Inscriptionum, ex recensione et cum Annotationibus* JOAN. GEORG. GRAEVII. *Amst. 1707. Fol. Tom. I. p. 27.*

ference betwixt them, as copied here exactly from the marbles, and as represented in both their books ; more especially in the form of the Α, Ε, Θ, Ι, Κ, Λ, Μ, Ν, Ρ, Σ.

The most remarkable things to be observed, in relation to this Ionic character, according to MONTFAUCON, are, “ That the ε always expresses the vowel η, which is never put as a vowel, but only as a note of aspiration. ο denotes both the diphthong ορ and the vowel ο. αι, ει, and οι, express α, ῃ, ῆ. In the consonants, instead of Δ, the Latin D is used ; the form of which is much more ancient, as being derived from the Phoenicians ; and π has the right shank shorter than the other. But that which is most singular in this Inscription is, that the preposition κατὰ is denoted by a cross †, and x left out ; †ΘΟΝΙΟΝ for ΚΑΤΑΘΟΝΙΟΝ, *Deorum Manium* or *Inferorum*”

In order to explain and illustrate this Inscription, it is exhibited in the following pages in three distinct columns. The first contains the Greek in modern capital characters, instead of smaller, as published by GRUTER and MONTFAUCON ; except in one single word, about which the latter differs from the former. The second gives the Latin translation, as it stands in GRUTER's collection ; and the third one in English. Underneath are some alterations of the Latin by MONTFAUCON.

In



ODENI
 OEMI
 TONME
 TAKINE
 MEKTO
 TRIOTIO
 HOESTIN
 EGITO
 TRITO
 ENTEI
 HODOI
 TEIATTIA
 ENTOI
 HERODO
 PROIO
 PROLOI
 ONTOI
 KINEAN
 TIMAR
 TVSDAI
 MON
 ENHODIA

KAIHOIKIO
 NESDEMETROS
 KAIKORES
 ANAOEMA
 KAITOONI
 ONOON KAI

To JAMES DAWKINS Esq. this Plate is gratefully inscribed.

In Columna priori.	GRUTER'S Translation.	On the first Pillar.
ΟΥΔΕΝΙ ΘΕΜΙ- ΤΟΝ ΜΕ- ΤΑΚΕΙΝΗ- ΣΑΙ ΕΚ ΤΟΥ ΤΡΙΩΠΙΟΥ Ο ΕΣΤΙΝ ΕΠΙ ΤΟΥ ΤΡΙΤΟΥ ΕΝ ΤΗ ΟΔΩ ΤΗ ΑΠΠΙΑ ΕΝ ΤΩ ΗΡΩΔΟΥ ΑΓΡΩ· ΟΥ ΓΑΡ ΑΝΙ- ΟΝ ΤΩ ΚΙΝΗΣΑΝ- ΤΙ. ΜΑΡ- ΤΥΣ ΔΑΙ- ΜΩΝ ΕΝΟΔΙΑ	Nemini fas ¹ trans- ferre ex tem- plo, quod est ad tertium lapidem in via Appia, in Herodis agro : non enim ² * operae ^{* ex usu} pretium ^{forte Mls.} moventi. Testis dea ³ viarum praefes,	It is not lawful for any one to remove [these statues] out of the Triopium, which is three miles [from Rome,] on the Appian way, in Herod's field. For it shall be of no service to him that shall move them. Witness the Goddess who presides over the roads.

In altera Co-
lumna.

On the other
Pillar.

ΚΑΙ ΟΙ ΚΙΟ- ΝΕΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΟΡΗΣ ΑΝΑΘΗΜΑ ΚΑΙ ΧΘΟΝΙ- ΩΝ ΘΕΩΝ ΚΑΙ	et colum- nae Cereris et ⁴ Filiae donarium et Manium deorum et	and the conse- crated Pillars [in honour] of Ceres and her Daugh- ter, and of the In- fernal Gods, and
--	--	---

1. est transmovere ex Triopio. MONTFAUCON. 2. con-
ducat. Idem. 3. Enodia, id est, viarum. Idem. 4. Pro-
serpinae donarium ac. Idem

The word *τριπίσιον*, which in GRUTER is turned by *templo*, MONTFAUCON translates *Triopio*: and *Τριπίσιον*, according to PHAVORINUS, is *ἱερὸν ἰσθμίου* a temple or *sane where festivals are celebrated*; but seems more peculiarly to signify one dedicated to APOLLO *Triopius*. In honour of whom, there were solemn games called *Τριπίσια*, *Triopia*; in which the prizes were tripods of brals, which the victors were obliged to consecrate to him.

It is observed by MONTFAUCON, "that *Ἐνοδία*, *Enodia*, according to HESYCHIUS, is DIANA *venatrix* or *the huntress*; according to others, HECATE. And that as she presides over the common roads, she is here invoked as a witness against those, who should remove the statues, dedicated to CERES, PROSERPINA, and the * *Manes* or Infernal Gods."

But the same gentleman's conjecture, that † in the inscription stands for *κατά*, and that the *x* belonging to *ΘΟΝΙΟΝ* is omitted, is not so probable. For as he owns this to be *singular*, so it seems much more likely, that †, from its resemblance to *x*, stands for it; so that *χθονίω* is the true reading: on which account, a learned person here would have it translated *terrestrium*. But this cannot

* Tho' the *Manes* may be comprehended under the *Infernal Gods*, yet they cannot be the same with, nor comprehend all the rest, besides PROSERPINA.

cannot be so proper; nor is there indeed any occasion at all for it, since *χθονίων* in the best authors signifies the same with *καταχθονίων*. And thus the inscription runs in a very natural order: according to which, DIANA and CERES, who are both terrestrial goddesses, are first mentioned; and immediately followed by PROSERPINA, and the infernal gods.—From the last *καὶ* GRUTER justly observes, that one or more pillars, belonging to these, are wanting; to the inscription on which this *and* has a reference.

There being no stops in the whole, nor even any distinction of words, which marbles of the greatest antiquity have not; this leaves room for a variety of interpretation, depending upon the difference of pointing. And accordingly, at the latter end, the English runs, as if the Greek were to be pointed thus, *καὶ οἱ κίονες, Διμυτρός καὶ Κόρης ἀνάθημα, καὶ χθονίων Θεῶν et columnae, Cereris et Filiae donarium, et Inferorum Deorum*: making the Pillars them-selves to be the ἀνάθημα, *donarium*, or offering dedicated to CERES, PROSERPINA, and the Infernal Gods.

Whether this be the true and exact meaning, is submitted to the judgement of the antiquarians in your part of the world: whose opinion your learned friend would be glad to receive, whether it should prove in favour, or in contradiction of his own. For as few persons have more learn-

ing; so, the sole end of all his inquiries being truth, no man has more candor and impartiality: which I have found by long experience, ever since I have had the honour, and the pleasure of his acquaintance; which has likewise been of no small advantage to,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R XXIII.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, June 10. 1742. N. S.*

ON the 27th of last month, I left Rome, in company with Mr. FORTESCUE, a young gentleman on his travels: who, through Mr. PITT's and Mr. HOLDSWORTH's recommendation, favoured me with a place in his post-chaise. We passed through Marino, Velletri, Sermonetta, Setia, Piperno, Fossa Nuova, and Terracina, to Fondi; where we lay the first night. In the road betwixt Sermonetta and Setia, we saw the ruins called *Le Tre Taverne*, or *The Three Taverns*, mentioned by S. PAUL, Acts xxviii. 15. of which there is nothing now but two or three old arches remaining. On the right hand, the promontory of Monte Circello, the ancient residence of the celebrated CIRCE, runs into the sea. Below Piperno,

perno, we passed through a very large wood of cork trees. About eight miles beyond Fossa Nuova, we entered upon the old Via Appia, which comes out of a deep marsh, at present inaccessible. This road is paved with stones* of a greyish colour, about two foot broad, and one thick, of an irregular form; so closely and artfully joined, that they remain in their old situation at present, not at all disjointed or loosened, for several miles together. It is fourteen feet wide, and the margin on each side is raised about two.—Near Terracina, the ancient Anxur, are many remains of antique monuments. A little beyond this city, part of some high rocks, which continued to the sea, is cut away, to make room for the road; and on the side of the rocks, which are perpendicular are cut numeral† Roman letters, from x to xx, and so on to the top, marked cxx. and as the distances between the tens are unequal, the design of these marks is as yet a mystery. About three miles from Terracina, an old wall, which runs up into the countrey, separates the Ecclesiastical from the Neapolitan state.

Leaving

* "Twelve foot broad, of huge stones most of them blue, and generally a foot and a half large on all sides." BURN. p. 181.—"Their colour is greyish and reddish, like iron when it begins to rust. The largest are little more than two feet, and the smallest not less than one. MISSION, Vol. I. Pt. ii. p. 385.

† Mr. ADDISON says, "The figures increase still in a decimal proportion, as they come nearer the bottom." p. 118.

Leaving Fondi the next day early in the morning, we went through Itri, Mola, Minturna, S. Agatha, Capua, Averfa, and arrived at Naples about noon. From Mola we had a prospect of Gaieta, which lay about a post off on our right. At Minturna there is at present no house, except the post-house: but there lye scattered round about many remains of the old city, particularly the ruins of an amphitheatre, and of an aqueduct. We passed in a ferry-boat the river Garigliano, formerly called *Liris*; which still exactly answers that beautiful description given by HORACE: * for it is prodigious deep, and its motion so slow and smooth, that it is scarce perceptible. Modern Capua stands about a mile and a half from the place of the old, upon the river Volturno. The country round about is extremely fruitful and beautiful; the fields being covered with corn, and planted with olives intermixed with other trees, from which hang vines, tied, like so many garlands, from one tree to another.

The king of Sicily being at Portici, where he has a small palace, about four miles from Naples, at the foot of mount Vesuvius; we easily gained admittance into all the apartments of his grand palace, which is very magnificent, and famous for its architecture, being the work of Cavalier

* — *Rura quae Liris quietâ*
Mordet aquâ taciturnus amnis. I. OD. xxxi. 37.

valier FONTANA. Within is preserved a most curious collection of medals and pictures, which were brought from Parma. All the latter are by the most eminent hands: and amongst them is MICHAEL ANGELO's famous design of the last judgement, painted by him at large in the Capella Paulina of S. Peter's. It is done upon board, in oil colours, and finely preserved: and its value is exceeding great, as having been drawn solely by MICHAEL's own hand; whereas his great work at Rome is much damaged, and several of the nudities have been awkwardly covered with draperies by other painters.—Naples has many fine and noble churches, particularly those of S. Apostoli, Della Concezzione, S. TERESA, S. PHILIPPO NERI, S. MARIA della Sanita, Annuntiata, Monte Oliveto, &c. In these, and especially in their sacristies, there are pictures by the best hands. Over one of the altars of S. PHILIPPO NERI, there is a piece by GUIDO, representing the virgin MARY in the clouds, with S. PETER on one side, S. PAUL on the other, and S. FRANCESCO on his knees below: this is one of the finest pictures, and best preserved, that I ever saw of GUIDO's; for which, it is said, that an English gentleman offered no less than four thousand crowns.

But the church, most famous for its riches and ornaments, is that of S. MARTINO, situate upon
a very

a very high hill, which commands the whole city. The cieling is all painted by LANFRANCO; and, amongst many excellent pictures, there is a large capital one of GUIDO's, representing the adoration of the Magi. In one of the apartments of the adjoining convent of the Carthusians, is the famous *Crucifix of MICHAEL ANGELO; in painting which, it is said, he stabb'd the man who was tied to a cross for his model, that he might the more naturally express a person in the agonies of death. But supposing this to be true, one cannot judge of the effect of this barbarity, by examining the picture; which, tho' † small in it-self, for fear it should be stol'n, the Priests, have hung so high, that one can scarcely discern whether it be a Crucifix or no. From the cloisters of the monastery of the Carthusians is a most delightful prospect of Naples; of mount Vesuvius, which lies south-east; of the island of Capreæ, the infamous retirement of TIBERIUS; and of the two promontories of Surrentum and Salernum: between the former of which and Capreæ, the sea flows in, and forms a most safe and

* " In the Borgheze palace at Rome, they shew'd us a Crucifix, of the same bigness with that of the Carthusians at Naples; and assur'd us, that this is that famous original of MICHAEL ANGELO." *MISSON*, Vol. ii. Pt. i. p. 9.

† *MISSON* says, " the Crucifix is not above half a foot high, and holds his head exactly straight; which agrees not very well with the posture of a man expiring on the cross." Vol. I. Pt. ii. p. 409.

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and beautiful harbour, in the shape of a semi-circle, terminated by the walls and buildings, which rise gradually on the side of a hill. The city is very large; the houses uniform, high, and flat-roofed; to the top of which the inhabitants ascend in the cool of the evening, to enjoy the fresh breezes which come from the sea. Most of the streets are very narrow, and the houses as closely joined as possible; that they may be the better able, as I imagine, to withstand the shocks of earthquakes: of their escape from which most of the convents and houses retain visible marks, having large cracks in them from the top to the bottom.—In my next, you shall receive a farther account of this ramble of,

HONOURED SIR,

Your most obedient, &c.

LETTER XXIV.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, July 2. 1742.*

IN TENDING to take a view of the curiosities and antiquities on both sides of Naples, we begun our course, as travellers call it, by going to the village of Puzzuoli, through the grotto of Paufilypo. This is a public road, cut

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through

through under a mountain, for * about half a mile. The height of the arch at each entrance is about one hundred feet, hewn sloping down towards the middle, for the admission of the light ; to let in the more of which, two holes likewise are cut up through the body of the mountain. Exactly over the entrance from Naples, stands, or more properly hangs, † the tomb of VIRGIL ; which is not badly represented in some cuts which are common in England. Abundance of laurel flourishes round it : a twig of which I stripped off to make a pencil-stick ; imagining, that there might be at least as much virtue in it, as in some reliques taken from the tombs of ancient or modern saints.

Having passed through the grotto; we turned a little on the right, and came to the || lake d'Agnano: on the banks of which is the ‡ Grotta del cane ;

* " It is four hundred and forty paces long, and twenty foot broad. It is at first forty foot high, but afterwards it is but twenty." BURNET's *Travels*. p. 177.—It is near a short Italian mile [a large English half mile] in length, thirty or forty foot high, and about eighteen broad. *Misson*. Vol. I. Part ii. p. 434.

† " It is certain, this poet was buried at Naples ; but I think it is almost as certain, that his tomb stood on the other side of the town, which looks towards Vesuvio." ADDISON, p. 132.

|| " The lake is between two little hills, is almost round, and about a mile in circuit." *Misson*, Vol. I. Pt. ii. p. 435.

‡ " It is nine or ten foot long or deep, four and an half broad, and five high ; without any workmanship. It is not left open, but kept lock'd up." *ibid*.

cane; the extraordinary effects of which we saw performed as usual upon a dog. There is a poisonous * vapour, which steams out like the reek of a boiling kettle, about half a foot from the earth: within this vapour the dog being held down, lolled out his tongue, with strong convulsions; and would have expired very soon, had he not been taken out, and layed upon the banks of the lake, where he in a little time intirely recovered. A lighted torch, being put below the surface of the vapour, was immediately extinguished, and ceased even to smoke. Hard by are baths of different degrees of heat, and some of them excessively hot.

We proceeded next to the Solfatara, which was formerly, no doubt, a burning mountain: but its bowels having sunk, and its top fallen in, it remains a smooth level, like a pond of ice covered with snow; being † about a half mile in circumference, environed with high, steep, and smoking

O. 2

hills.

* "This vapour is generally suppos'd to be sulphureous, tho' I can see no reason for such a supposition. He that dips his hand in it finds no smell that it leaves upon it; and tho' I put a whole bundle of lighted brimstone matches to the smoke, they all went out in an instant, as if immers'd in water. Whatever is the composition of the vapour, let it have but one quality of being very glewy and viscous, and I believe it will mechanically solve all the *Phænomena* of the Grotto." ADDISON, p. 141

† "It resembles a kind of oval basin, about twelve hundred and fifty foot long, and a thousand in breadth." MISSEN, Vol. I. Pt. ii. p. 438.

hills. The ground is certainly hollow, by its founding under ones feet, and by the rising of smoak out of several places ; particularly at one, whence a noise proceeds like the blowing of a smith's bellows. The sulphureous stones and nitre cast up are burning hot ; and when we held over the hole a piece of iron, immediately boiling water gathered round it, occasioned by the hot steam that issued forth ; yet, when afterwards we thrust down a piece of paper, it was neither burnt, nor made wet. Near this place are the ruins of an amphitheatre, remarkable for the martyrdom of S. JANUARIUS ; of the temples of DIANA, and of NEPTUNE ; and farther off to the right, of CICERO's villa.

The cathedral church at Puzzuoli is built upon the ruins of a temple of JUPITER. In a piazza here stands a pedestal, dug up some time since ; the inscription of which being to TIBERIUS CAESAR, it is thought to have supported a statue, erected to him by fourteen cities of Asia, in gratitude for his beneficence towards them, after a prodigious desolation by * an earth-quake. There are figures in basso relievo on the sides, which are very fine, representing those cities ; under which
are

* "The same that, according to the opinion of many learned men, happen'd at our Saviour's crucifixion. In each figure is discovered something particular to the city, of which it represents the Genius." ADDISON, p 136.

are ingraved the following names, LEMNOS, CIBYRA, MYRINA, EPHESES, APOLLONEA, HYRC, PHILADELPHIA, TMOLUS, CYNA, the other five are not legible.

From Puzzuoli we passed into the road of Campania, taking a circuit, in order to proceed to Cumæ. On each side of this road are numberless ruins, particularly of sepulchres; into one of which we entered, that was the best preserved, and the most beautiful of any. The roof was adorned with fine figures in stucco; and on all the sides were niches in the wall, in which lie the bones and ashes of the deceased; and which, from their likeness to the holes in a pigeon-house, are called *Columbaria*. Continuing in the same road, we left Mount Gaurus on our right, and Monte Nuovo on our left. The former was once famous for its wines, but is at present so barren, that it goes by the name of Monte Barbaro. Monte Nuovo is so called from its having been raised out of the earth in 1538, in one night, by an earth-quake, and an eruption of fire; which destroyed the town of Tripergola, and the convent of S. Spirito, with all the inhabitants; the sea retiring at the same time above an hundred paces from the shore. It is said to be three miles in circumference, and * half a mile in height; and

is

* "Its perpendicular height amounts to four hundred fathoms." Misson, Vol. I. Pt. ii. p. 443.

is clothed with vineyards from the bottom to the top; the hollow of which, where was formerly the mouth of the volcano, is now cultivated with corn, olives, &c.

Leaving the lake Avernus on the left, we turned away towards the right; and passing through a very old arch, called Arco Felice, arrived at Cumæ, which stands upon an high rocky eminence, close to the sea. From hence we took a view of the islands of Prochyta and Ischia lying to the south; of the ruins of the * temple of APOLLO; and of the sea-shore towards the north: near which lies the Stygian lake, which extends about two miles in length, in a serpentine form, having a communication with the sea, by a little neck in the middle of it. At some small distance beyond this there is a tower, called Torre di Patria;; where once stood the ancient city of Linternum whither SCIPIO AFRICANUS retired, and where he was buried, with that remarkable epitaph expressing the ingratitude of his country.

Descending from Cumæ on the eastern side, we came to the mouth of a cave, which is accounted the true entrance of the grotto of the Cumean Sibyl. We entered, and proceeded in it no farther than about an hundred paces, the earth having

* "Which all the Writers of the Antiquities of this place suppose to have been the same VIRGIL describes in his Sixth *Æneid*, as built by DÆDALUS." ADDISON, p. 165.

ving fallen in, and stopp'd the passage ; which, they say, was formerly continued under the mountain, for three miles, to the other entrance of the grotto, which is on the banks of the Avernian lake. When I entered this last about two years ago, with some gentlemen, we were obliged to creep on all four ; but as we advanced, we found the roof of the cavern * exceeding high and regular, proceeding forward at least half a mile, 'till our progress was obstructed by the earth which had fallen in.

Having left the grotto, and returned back again a good way, we 'struck off to the left ; and having passed by the Lago Caluccio, which lay on our right, we came to Mercato del Sabato : a place of many ruins, which some say were anciently sepulchres ; others that they are the remains of a Circus ; and that in latter times a great fair was kept here every saturday, from whence
it

* "The rock is one of the hardest stones in the world, and the cave goeth in seven hundred foot long, twenty foot broad ; and, as I could guess, eighteen foot high : and from the end of this great gallery, there is a narrow passage of three foot broad, two hundred foot long, and seven high, to a little apartment, to which we go in a constant sloping descent from the great cave. Here are three little rooms : in one of them there are some remains of an old Mosaick, with which the walls and roofs were laid over : there is also a spring of water, and a bath, in which it is supposed the Sybil bathed herself ; and from this cave, it is said, that there runs a cave all along to Cuma, which is three long miles.—The marks of the chissel in all parts of the rock shew, that this is not a work of Nature." BURNET'S *Travels*, p. 178, 179.

it took its present name. Near this place lye what they call the Elysian fields ; and on the left the ruins of the villa and sepulchre of AGRIPPINA, murdered here by the order of her son NERO : in the roof of the latter is the figure of AGRIPPINA in stucco, adorned with swans, and other ornaments, in different manners. Proceeding southward we came near the Mare Mortuum, separated from the Mediterranean by a very narrow neck of land : beyond which the high cape of Misenum, where AENEAS's trumpeter was buried, projects into the sea. Then turning off to the east towards the shore of Baiæ we came to the * Centum Cameræ, now called the Cento Camerelle ; into fourteen or fifteen of which we entered with lighted torches, the rest being stopped up by the falling in of the earth. Their horrid contrivance shews them to be the invention of NERO ; who, it is said, confined many here who had offended him, and most barbarously left them to perish with hunger. Near these we saw the remains of the † *Piscina mirabilis*, which was
an

* " At the entrance there is a noble Portico built of pillars of brick ; and as one enters into the rock, he finds a great many rooms regularly shaped, hew'd out of the rock, and all covered over with plaister, which is still entire, and so white, that one can hardly think that it hath not been washed over since it was first made." p. 180.

† " It is a great basin of water, wrought like a huge temple, standing upon eight and forty great pillars, all hew'd
out

an old and vast reservoir of water. We then proceeded northward, passing by the ruins of the temple of HERCULES, to Baiæ.

In this delightful situation, which was once so full of magnificent buildings, and the scene of so much luxury and voluptuousness, one sees nothing but ruins of temples, palaces, villas, baths, &c. the foundations of many of which may be perceived under water, at a good distance from the shore. The ruins of the temples of VENUS, and of DIANA, which stand near the bay; and of the villas of MARIUS, and of POMPEY, which are placed higher up on the mountains, are the most remarkable. On the north-east side of Baiæ, where NERO's palace stood, we entered a passage, cut in the side of a mountain, which led to his hot baths; in which we had proceeded but a little way, when we began to repent of our undertaking, the steams issuing out so violently, that we could hardly breathe. But I, who had been deterred once before, being unwilling that my curiosity should be disappointed a second time, resolved to follow my guide; who went before with a torch, 'till we came to the bottom, where the water, which is very clear, and almost scalding hot, trickles out. In returning, I counted

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my

out of the rock; and they are laid over with four crusts of plaister, which is now as hard as stone. This is believ'd to be a work of Nero's," BURNET, p. 130.

my paces, and found that I had descended above an hundred and fifty into the rock. There are two chief entrances into these baths, from which run six other considerable passages into the bowels of the mountain. All sorts of sick persons resort hither in the months of June and July; * there being several different and convenient apartments made for them in the heart of the rock. My guide assured me, that no one can bear the heat of these baths above a quarter of an hour: so that a great number of people must needs have perished, in carrying on and finishing so difficult and tedious a work. Between this mountain and Monte Nuovo lies a small pond, the only remains of the Lucrine lake, so famous for its oysters, and on other accounts: all the rest of which was swallowed in the earthquake mentioned above, which gave birth to the Monte Nuovo. At the foot of the mountain which contains the hot baths, we took boat, and crossing the delightful bay of Puzzuoli, returned to that place. By means of this passage, we had an opportunity of taking a good view of the fourteen large piles built in the sea, pointing

* “ Where the rock is soft and spongy, the steams come through with a melting heat There are galleries hewed out of the rock and faced with a building, in which there are, as it were, beds made in the walls, upon which they lay their quilts and bed-cloaths, and so come regularly out of their sweats.” p. 181.

pointing towards the Bayan shore: which * some will have to be the remains of CALIGULA's bridge; but others, with better reason, of a much more ancient mole, raised there for the preservation of the harbour; that mad-man's bridge having been onely of boats, and most probably joined to the other.

Having now wandered, Sir, for a whole day, through these Romantic regions, through fire, and water, and endeavoured to lead you, tho' absent, along with me by this tedious prosaic description; I believe you, as well as my-self, begin to be a little tired: and therefore at present I shall not pretend to drag you to the top of mount Vesuvio. But as I know you to be a great admirer of poetry, as well as of painting; to give you some refreshment, after this fatigue, I shall set before your eyes the landskip of some of these places drawn by SILIUS ITALICUS; and beg leave to join with it the beautiful copy, done by the fine hand of Mr. ADDISON.

“ Stagna inter celebrem nunc mitia monstrat Avernum;
Tum tristi nemore atque umbris nigrantibus horrens,
Et formidatus volucris, lethale vomebat
Suffuso virus caelo; Stygiâque per urbes

P 2

Religione

* “ They have all been led into this error from the make of it, because it stands on arches. ANTONINUS PIUS repaired this mole; it had twenty piles.” ADDISON, p. 135.

Religione sacer, saevum retinebat honorem.
 Hinc vicina Palus, fama est Acherontis ad undas
 Pandere iter, caecas stagnante voragine fauces
 Laxat, et horrendos aperit telluris hiatus,
 Interdumque novo perturbat lumine manes.
 Juxtà caligante situ, longumque per aevum
 Infernis pressas nebulis, pallente sub umbra
 Cimmerias jacuisse domos, noctemque profundam
 Tartareae narrant urbis. Tum sulfure et igni
 Semper anhelantes, coëctoque bitumine, campos
 Ostentant : tellus atro exundante vapore
 Suspirans, ustisque diu calefacta medullis
 Aestuat, et Stygios exhalat in aëra flatus :
 Parturit, et tremulis metuendum exhibilat antris ;
 Interdumque cavas luctatus rumpere sedes,
 Aut exire foras, sonitu lugubre minaci
 Mulciber immugit, lacerataque viscera terrae
 Mandit, et exesos labefactat murmure montes,
 Tradunt Herculeâ prostratos mole Gigantes
 Tellurem injectam quatere, et spiramine anhelò
 Terreri latè campos, quotiesque minantur
 Rumpere compagem impositam, expallescere caelum.
 Apparet procul Inarime, quae turbine nigro
 Fumantem premit Iäpetum, flammisque rebelli
 Ore ejectionem ; et, siquando evadere detur,
 Bella Jovi rursus Superisque iterare volentem.
 Monstrantur Veseva juga, atque in vertice summo
 Depasti flammis scopuli, fractusque ruinâ
 Mons circùm, atque Aetnae fati certantia saxa.
 Necnon Misenum servantem Idaea sepulcro
 Nomina, et Herculeos videt ipso littore Baulos."

Lib. xii.

"Averne

“ *Averno* next he show’d his wondring guest,
Averno now with milder virtues blest :
 Black with surrounding forests then it stood,
 That hung above, and darken’d all the flood ;
 Clouds of unwholesome vapours, rais’d on high,
 The flutt’ring bird entangled in the sky ;
 Whilst all around the gloomy prospect spread
 An awful horror, and religious dread.
 Hence to the borders of the marsh they go,
 That mingles with the baleful streams below ;
 And sometimes with a mighty yawn, ’tis said,
 Opens a dismal passage to the dead ;
 Who pale with fear the rending earth survey,
 And startle at the sudden flash of day.
 The dark *Cimmerian* Grotto then he paints,
 Describing all its old inhabitants,
 That in the deep infernal city dwell’d,
 And lay in everlasting night conceal’d.
 Advancing still, the spacious fields he show’d,
 That with the smother’d heat of brimstone glow’d ;
 Through frequent cracks the steaming sulphur broke,
 And cover’d all the blasted plain with smoke :
 Imprison’d fires, in the close dungeons pent,
 Roar to get loose, and struggle for a vent,
 Eating their way, and undermining all ;
 ’Till with a mighty burst whole mountains fall.
 Here, as ’tis said, the rebel Giants lie,
 And, when to move th’ incumbent load they try,
 Ascending vapours on the day prevail,
 The sun looks sickly, and the skies grow pale.
 Next to the distant Isle his sight he turns,
 That o’er the thunder-struck *TIPHOEUS* burns :
Enrag’d

Enrag'd his wide extended jaws expire,
 In angry whirlwinds, blasphemies and fire;
 Threat'ning, if loosen'd from his dire abodes,
 Again to challenge Jove, and fight the Gods.
 On Mount *Vesuvio* next he fixt his eyes,
 And saw the smoking tops confus'dly rise;
 (A hideous ruin!) that with earthquakes rent
 A second *Aetna* to the view present.
 MISENO's cape, and *Bauli* last he view'd,
 That on the sea's extremest borders stood."

I am, Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

LETTER XXV.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, July 22. 1742. N. S.*

HAVING in my last given you some account of the many curiosities both of art and nature, about *Puzzuoli* and *Baiæ*, on the west from *Naples*; I now send you a very short relation of our ramble to the south-east, to *Portici* and mount *Vesuvius*.

From *Naples* to *Portici*, a village at the foot of that mountain, are reckoned four miles, and from thence to the top of it, four more. Having gained the first two miles of this difficult ascent, by the help of asses, we were obliged by the increasing

creasing steepness to quit these braying animals, and to take the assistance of others, scarce so much more rational, as they were more noisy, viz. four men a-piece. Two of these, having girdles round their waist, of which I took fast hold, tugged me up; while the other two, attending on each side, or behind, pretended to help me, but indeed gave me more fatigue than assistance. There being a great many of this sort of fellows, it is impossible to get rid of them: every one claims a limb, and two of them quarrelled who should have the honour of assisting my back-side; and when I had reached the top, I observed them cursing and boxing one another below, while my posteriors were happily seated at ease on the ridge of the mountain.

As MISSEN's and ADDISON's accounts of this horrible monster are very just; it would be as presumptuous, as unnecessary, for me to attempt a new particular description of it. I shall therefore only observe, that the mouth, which seems to be about two miles in circumference, is subject to many alterations, from frequent eruptions. There was a terrible one a little more than five years ago, which must needs have changed the form very much from what it was when MR. ADDISON viewed it; nay since I viewed it myself, not much longer than two years ago, and made a design of it, there has been opened another

ther small mouth within the large one. We descended about fifty yards into the latter, and proceeded a good way round the side of it. I clap'd my ear to one of the places where it smoked, and heard a rumbling noise, like that of wind and water; which noise increasing, and the mouth beginning to throw up stones, we thought proper to follow the advice of our guides, and return back.

A day or two afterwards we went to see the subterraneous city near Portici; and after that, the statues, pictures, and other curiosities, which have been hitherto found in it, and are deposited in the king of Sicily's palace there. But I shall defer my account both of the one, and of the other, for some time; 'till I shall have had an opportunity of inquiring of some gentlemen, who have seen the same, whose information may render my relation less deficient. In the mean time, as the destruction of this city was principally effected by this tremendous mountain, it may not be altogether unacceptable to you, to lay before you a particular detail of all the most remarkable Eruptions, from the earliest time down to the present: extracted chiefly from two books, * one in

* M. THO. ITTIGII, *Lips. Colleg. Philos. in Acad. patr. Adsefforis, Lucubrationes Academicæ de montium incendiis, &c. antehac ad disputandum diversis vicibus propositæ, nunc ab Autore recognitæ, magnam partem auctæ, et conjunctim editæ, Lipsiæ 1671. 12mo.*

in Latin, which I believe, is very scarce; and * the other in Italian, lately published.

TACITUS seems to shew a great regard for an ancient tradition, that this mountain burned in † the most remote ages. And from what § STRABO and || VITRUVIUS say, it is reasonable to believe, that those ancient burnings long preceded the age in which they wrote: for it is not at all likely, that the remembrance of them could have been intirely effaced, had they been nearer to the time of those authors. And as to STRABO in particular, could he, who describes with so much exactness so many other climates, which were less within the sphere of his knowledge, have possibly neglected to leave some account of the prodigious phaenomena of this mountain?

From this historic deficiency in STRABO, and more still from the silence of PLINY the elder, who neither * in mentioning Vesuvius gives the least intimation, that it was a volcano, nor † in treating of volcanos makes the least mention of Vesuvius; some persons think, that they may at least justly infer, that the first burnings were but weak and inconsiderable, otherwise the memory of them must needs have been perpetuated among the people round about. — But were these first

VOL. I. Q burnings

* *Istoria dell' incendio del Vesuvio accaduto nel Mese di Maggio dell' anno MDCCXXXV. In Napoli 1740.* It was published first in Latin, 1738. † *Hist. Lib. i.* § *Lib. v. p. 379.* || *Lib. ii. Cap. 6.* * *Lib. iii. 9. xiv. 9.* † *Lib. ii. 109.*

burnings ever so formidable ; yet, through a long cessation of them, they might fall into oblivion. Thus *the memory of the flames of *Ætna* was so intirely lost towards the sixteenth century, that many of the inhabitants of *Catania* ridiculed, as fabulous, whatever had been related concerning them, by so many Greek and Latin Authors.— There is therefore no doubt, that a long time before *STRABO*, who flourished at the latter end of *AUGUSTUS*' and the beginning of *TIBERIUS*' reign, *Vesuvius* threw out flames.

But the first most memorable eruption, of which we have any faithful description, happened under the reign of *TITUS VESPASIAN*, in the year of *CHRIST* 79. Of this, *SUETONIUS*, *JOSEPHUS*, *EUSEBIUS*, *ZONARAS*, and *OROSIUS* have made mention : and more especially *PLINY* the younger, and *XIPHILINUS* in his † *Abridgment* of *DION*, are very copious in noting the most remarkable particulars. Of which this being one, that *Herculanum* was overwhelmed by it, I shall defer the accounts given of it by the two last, 'till I come to speak of that subterraneous city, and the curiosities found therein.

The next eruption, according to *PLATINA*, was in the time of *TRAJAN* ; which opinion ‖ *SABELLICUS* imagines he embraced upon the authority

* *Carrerae Descript. Mont. Ætn. Lib. iii. 7.* † *Lib. lxvi. Em. viii. l. 6.*

thority of EUSEBIUS, and wonders at him for it. But however that may be, it is certain, that after that period Vesuvius was several times on fire: as particularly under DIOCLESIAN, when, as we read in * *Majolus*, its fire was extinguished by S. JANUARIUS; and afterwards in the times of SEVERUS, when † DION the Historian heard its roarings at Capua. After this, in the time of CONSTANTINE the great, § it vomited out flames for several days; together with such a vast quantity of dust and ashes, that every green thing was destroyed round about.

In the year 472, while the emperor LEO was exhibiting public games and shews, in honour of his grand-son, for whom in preference to the father he designed the empire; on the 6th of November, about noon, the day was overcast with profound darkness; and it rained ashes like snow, which covered the ground to the height of a palm. Upon which account, annual solemnities were appointed to be observed on that day, according to the account of CEDRENUS and MARCELLINUS. Besides whom, SIGONIUS also takes notice of that eruption in these words: || “Vesuvius vomited up its inflamed bowels; and, while nocturnal darkness overspread all things in the day time, covered all Europe with the smallest

Q 2

ashes.

* *Coll.* 16. † *Lib.* lxxvi. § *Wernefrid. de gestis Longobardorum. Lib.* vi. || *De Imperio occid. Lib.* xiv.

ashes. An annual commemoration of which portent was instituted by the Constantinopolitans on the sixth of November." But at this time, there is no appearance of that devotion to be found in the Greek Menologies.

SIGONIUS likewise gives an account of the next eruption in the year 512. when * "the mountain opened a vast crack, from whence broke forth a vapour so thick and black, that it hid the light of the sun with gloomy darkness; and was attended with so horrible a noise, that it shook all the neighbouring places with a violent tremor. And so great a quantity of ashes was poured out from thence, that they covered even provinces beyond the seas. But in Campania, there flowed as it were streams of dust; and the sand with fervent force run down the mountain, like a river: by which the plains below swelled as high as the tops of the trees, and all green things withered and were burned up." To alleviate which desolation, THEODORIC first king of the Goths in Italy, remitted the tribute usually payed by the Campanians.

Again, in the twelfth year of CONSTANTINE POGONATUS, being that of CHRIST 684, † Vesuvius cast out flames for several days, and burnt up all things near it.—Having ceased for above
three

* *Lib. xvi.* † SIGON. *de regno Italiae, Lib. ii. Warnesfridus de gestis Longobardorum, Lib. vi. & Chronicum Sigeberti.*

three centuries, in 993, * frequent fires broke out ; by which all Italy was afflicted, and even a great part of Rome was burned. Immediately after which, followed the eruption of the Saracens into Africa, and the destruction of Carthage.— A like burning happened afterwards† in 1036. under the emperor CONRADE, and Pope BENEDICT IX. and again in || the year 1538.

But the most memorable of all was that, which in the year 1631 afflicted all the neighbouring places with inestimable damage ; when through the long truce it had observed, the memory of all former losses had almost vanished away. On Dec. 6. the neighbouring regions perceived a kind of earthquake ; upon which the countrey people, packing up their goods, or leaving them behind, retired to Naples. But a little before night, horrid noises, intermixed with most vehement claps of thunder, were heard ; and after that vast body, being shaken with great force, had opened a prodigious mouth in the top, several black and foetid clouds proceeded out of it, between which, flashes of fire every now and then shot forth. These at first resembled artificial fire-works ; but afterwards produced fatal prodigies : for, together with the flames, scalding water, ashes, and indigested masses of minerals and metals, melted within

* Calvisius *ex* Baronio *ad ann.* 993. † MERULÆ *Italia.*
|| MUNSTERI *Cosmograph. Lib. ii.*

within the bowels of the mountain, flowed down its declivities, like fiery torrents, into the circumjacent fields, 'till they glided into the very sea; which, terrified as it were with so unusual a prodigy, retreated with its waters towards the centre. Besides, the heaven was so obscured with darkness, that day seemed intirely to have given place to night.

*Death in a thousand forms destructive frown'd;
And Woe, Despair, and Horror rag'd around.*

Æneid II. by PITT.

* But at the very same time, that Vesuvius on one side vomited out those fiery torrents; on the other, where it overlooks the fields of Palma and Nola, a vast flood of water, rushing out of the crack of the mountain, overwhelmed and destroyed all things far and near. Nor long after, those who inhabited the maritime foot of the mountain, hearing a kind of murmuring noise, like that of a torrent running down, and having before experienced the deflux of fire, prepared themselves for flight. But while all was in an uproar, a torrent of water rushed down again into the fields; tho' there fell not one drop of rain.—The damage which the neighbouring tracts of land sustained was not to be estimated. Castello del Greco, where formerly Herculaneum stood,

was

* CÆSAR RECUPITUS *de Vesuvii incendio*, cited by SCHÖRTUS in his *Anatemia Physico-Hydrostatica*; L. i. C. 7.

was intirely demolished, except the palace of the princes of Stiglia, which alone was left undamaged. All the rest of the buildings were onely just not levelled with the ground; and not even the least ruins of the walls remained standing. The limbs of human dead bodies yielded every where a miserable spectacle; tho' even these could not be sufficiently distinguished. The governor of the place, riding too near the mountain, was at once overwhelmed and buried. In Pietra Bianca there was a much more miserable appearance of things, on account of the dreadful confusion and dilaniation of the bodies, both of men, and of other animals. Besides those two places, Castel Annunciata, where formerly stood Pompeii, Resina, S. Giorgio, Jorio, and many other were overturned. And on the other side of the mountain, Octaviano, Scaffatta, Palma, S. Anastasio, Lauro, Pomigliano, Striano, and Sarno. P. RECUPITO says, that about five thousand persons were destroyed: but CARAFA affirms, that almost ten thousand lost their lives, either in the flames, or in the ruins.

What tongue the dreadful slaughter could disclose?

Or oh! what tears could answer half their woes?

Æneid II. by PITT.

Nor

THEODORUS VALLE, who was an eye-witness, says, The sea retired several times, and left the ships dry upon the shore.

Nor was Vesuvius altogether at quiet during the following years. For in 1632, 1635, 1638, and 1649, it threw out abundance of smoak and flames, and dispersed a great part of its bowels into the air. And particularly in 1660, its old paroxysms returned: thick and black clouds of smoak were followed by bright and furious flames, darted towards the skies; and the neighbouring villages and fields were covered with such continual showers of ashes and stones, that the frightened people fled into subterraneous caves, or into churches, or to Naples. At last on July 3. a large cleft being opened in the mountain, for the length of two Italian miles, which gave room for the agitated matter to disperse itself, the rage and tumult within the volcano was appeased. Yet it now and then, at uncertain periods of time, continued to give some remarkable tokens of its wrath: as in the years 1670, 1682, * 1685, † 1687,

shore. Above 30000 persons, with an infinite number of cattle, perished. *MISSON. Vol. I. Pt. ii. p. 625.*

* The smoak of the burning in 1682 was so great, that it filled the air two days together with thick darkness for twelve miles round. The flames which gushed out afterwards destroyed the neighbouring forest called Ottajano. This terrible fit lasted from Aug. 14, to 26. *Ibid. p. 626.*

† In 1685, the little hill which surpasses the rest, was brought forth by a great eruption. The flame was very high and lively, and cast a greater light all night than that of the clearest moon: the whole country for twenty miles about being enlightened thereby. *Ibid.*

1687, 1688, 1689, * 1694, † 1696, and 1698. There was no manner of correspondence betwixt these different conflagrations; their seasons, their intervals, their force, and their duration had no other rule, but the caprice of Nature.

The eruption which happened towards the latter end of March in 1730, deserves particularly to be mentioned among the rest: not that it was one of the most fierce and noxious; but because it made a sensible alteration in the top of the mountain. For a great quantity of vitrified matter, and of stones, being heaped up, rendered it much sharper and higher than it was before.— The other remarkable particularities were; that the flames were more lively and bright than usual, and rose to an excessive height: the torrent, that was seen to run down the sides towards the sea, proceeded but a little way from the superiour mouth; but on the other part, where the sides of the volcano are almost surrounded and covered by the northern rocks of the Monte di Somma,

Vol. I.

R

a hor-

* In 1689, it cast forth it's flames for 22 days together, from Dec. 9. to Jan. 1. without intermission: and they heard at Naples a noise within the bowels of the mountain, like to that of boiling caldrons. *Ibid.* p. 635.

† In 1694. Ap. 6. it broke out with a horrible fury. The mountain was all on fire the remaining part of the month; and it threw out the burning matter with such force, that some of it reached Benevent, which is about thirty miles off. *Ibid.* p. 636.

a horrible profusion of liquified matter overflowed the bottom of the valley, vulgarly called *Atrio*.

From the eruption in 1730, to that in 1737, the old basin of Vesuvius had almost continually thrown out smoke, and sometimes fire; and there had been but few days truce, in so long a space of time. But more especially, during the three or four months, which preceded the last eruption, smoke was seen to rise without any intermission, sometimes more, sometimes less thick, and sometimes mingled with flames. This spectacle is so familiar to the people, that it does not excite in them either fear, or wonder: their eyes have been enured and reconciled to it, by the experience of a hundred years. On the contrary, the generality of them look upon this perpetual smoke, as a happy omen; taking it for a sure sign, that the internal fire consumes the matter of these conflagrations: and consequently they flatter themselves, that the country is less in danger, either from sudden fiery eruptions, or from earthquakes, imagining that both proceed from the same cause.

But whatever ancient foundation there may be for this popular opinion, concerning the peace promised by these tokens; this last great eruption plainly shewed, that they were not certain: for towards the end of April, and during the first days of May, even while the mountain vomited
out

out clouds of smoke, the fiery eruption began. From the 14th to the 18th inclusive, the smoke and the flames increasing, the volcano threw out red hot stones; and melted matter boiled over, and ran down on the eastern side: the smoke grew thicker in proportion to the burning; and the burning became so much the stronger, as the top was covered with sulphur, which had been heaping up there for a long time before.

On the 19th, being Sunday, both the fire and smoke increased more and more; the mountain trembled and groaned; at which all the places round about resounded. Then terror began to diffuse it-self through the hearts of the people. It was in reality a dreadful spectacle, to see, in the midst of so thick a smoke, a vast quantity of stones, shot into the air red hot, falling back again, and rolling down the sides of the summit, with a continual crash.

On the 20th, about eight in the morning, the hail of stones grew much more violent; and the fire became so furious, that notwithstanding the brightness of the day, one might see the flames shine in the midst of the blackest smoke, which almost intirely surrounded them.—About two in the afternoon, a dreadful noise like thunder was heard; which was thought to proceed from a new cleft made in the mountain, between the south and west. Out of this the flames immediately burst

forth, even while those, which aspired through the highest mouth, were animated with the greatest fury. The smoke, proportionably increasing, would have infallibly darkened all the maritime region, had not the south-wind blown briskly, and dispersed it through the air.—Towards evening, the smoke changed its colour to a bright brown; and the clouds in which it rose, being whirled round and round, grew much larger than before. The tempest redoubled its rage: there was a perfect deluge of red hot cinders, pumice-stones, and ashes.—A little after eight, there arose over all the mountain a very thick dark fog, but inlightened from time to time by a kind of thunder, which shot flashes of flame through the smoke and ashes. Presently a burning torrent dis-embogued it-self through the new cleft; and was seen running down the length of the talus with impetuosity, and threat'ning to throw it-self upon the town of Réfina. But a little after nine, it seemed to grow languid, to slacken its course, and to lose the brightness of its inflamed colour. In the mean time, the smoke, the flames, and the stones, which were vomited out above, were not at all diminished; and the roaring noise in the air continued as loud as ever.—Betwixt eleven and twelve, all of a sudden, the new cleft became fruitful once more, bringing forth smoke and flame in more abundance; and darting out
thunder

thunder, lightening, and stones in a prodigious quantity. At the same time, the torrent renewed its course with more rapidity; the whole mountain seemed to be on fire; and cracked for some time with as loud a noise, as if it had been shivering all to pieces. The shocks of the earth were as terrible, as frequent: and * at every explosion of thunder from the mountain, the strongest houses at the same instant shook and reeled; and that not only in Naples, but above fifteen miles off. And now all those, who had hitherto resolutely stayed in their houses, being driven out by the fright, fled as fast as they could, some one way, and some another,

The 21st was hardly begun, when the fiery torrent, being continually pushed on by fresh matter, threw it-self into the little cultivated valleys; where, being divided into different currents, according to the different situations, it carried ravage and desolation along with it, 'till the

* This shaking of the houses was not caused by the trembling either of the mountain, or of the neighbouring districts, but by the sudden explosions of fiery matter from the mouth of the volcano. For it was observed by the curious, that whenever a prodigious quantity of flame was suddenly thrown out, after a certain interval the noise was heard, and the houses shook. And this interval was found to be the same, in proportion to the distance, with that which is betwixt the fire which one sees from a cannon, and the report which one afterwards hears.

the whole stopped, about one in the afternoon.*
 —During all this time, even to the 23d, the ancient mouth cast out flames very violently, together with a large quantity of ashes and stones.—
 On the 24th, after a long explosion of thunders, with

* It came to the high road at the end of Torre del Greco, where there was a cavity of 50 palms depth, made formerly by the torrents. This broke the force of it; and made it come with less impetuosity, between the Monastero del Carmine and the Capella del Purgatorio. It widened here extremely, by which it was weakened again; and coming afterwards into a narrow way with walls on each side, it stopped a gun-shot short of the sea. Two bow-shots before the cavity, it is 90 foot broad; one bow-shot, only 60: between the Carmine and Capella, from corner to corner, it is 140: at its end, three or four bow-shots below the Carmine, it is no more than 26. Where it is 140, it spread yet wider on each side against the buildings; and burst in at the door of the Carmine church, but stopped, and hangs still suspended in respect to the altar. It forced into their lower rooms too, on the side; and is there, where they have cleared it away, 20 foot high by the wall. In its general run, 'tis highest in the middle: it has sometimes great waves in it, like broken waves of the sea: under, 'tis settled down, most usually, into a sort of metallic stone; which they cut sometimes for buildings, and the paving of streets. Towards the end, 'tis a little hill to go up it: the water flew about from it, as when you quench a red-hot piece of iron. — At the end of the fiery torrent, which ran into the sea in 1648. there is a very considerable hill, with a fine cave in it on the shore. S.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Naples, Aug. 30. 1737.

THE stop was made at the church about four in the afternoon, on tuesday May 21. The people were grateful enough to think this stop miraculous, tho' it made a great breach on one side, broke down and quite demolished their Sacristy on another side, besides cracking the roof. This Lava had from the declivity taken the water-course, which

with which, on such conjunctures, this volcano never fails to arm itself, the fires of the top lost some degree of their fury; but neither the smoke, nor the ashes were diminished at all.—The 27th there was very little flame, the smoke rose always

which had been the preservation of the country from being drowned: this hollow, which was for some miles between 30 and 40 foot deep, and as many wide, was not only filled up, but the matter rose as many feet above the surface of the land about it. . . . It continued very hot for a month or five weeks after. . . . After the stop at the church, part of the Lava took a turn into the large road of Salerno to a great height. . . . they have since made the road passable, by laying earth upon the Lava.

Tho' the great discharge of the metallic bodies ceased on tuesday, a vast destruction of the country, as far as Oñtajano 18 miles from Naples, followed, for a long time after; and the mountain continued to throw out vast showers of ashes and cinders, and destroyed all the fruits and produce of the earth, which does not recover for a long time. In this unhappy district and others, his Majesty has with great goodness taken off all taxes for ten years. As we turned on the left from Torre del Greco towards Oñtajano, we passed all the way through their Masserias; and the mountain, having the gage of us, for three or four miles, rained ashes plentifully upon our chaises, and we lost the smell of every thing but brimstone. All the trees and hedges bent under the weight of these ashes; several arms, and even bodies of trees, were broken with the weight; so that in some narrow roads we had great difficulty to pass. Within a mile or two of the Prince of Oñtajano's palace (a very honest worthy Gentleman, who has suffered a loss of 100000 ducats, some say more) one can scarce frame to ones self a sight of greater desolation: ten successive northern winters could not have left it in a worse condition; not a leaf on a tree, vine, or hedge, to be seen all the way we went, and some miles farther, as we were informed; here and at the Town they had a new earth about two feet deep or more. . . . At Somma on the northeast side, it has made great havock, and destroyed a Monastery of Nuns, &c.

ways to the same height, and dispersed it-self into the air with the same impetuosity; but its blackness was considerably cleared off.—On the 28th the fire was reduced almost to nothing; and on the next, and the following days, it was not to be seen.—From the 30th, to the 5th of June inclusive, there was still a good deal of smoke, but of a colour very clear and pale. I am,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

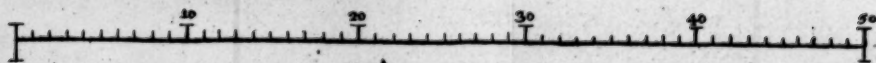
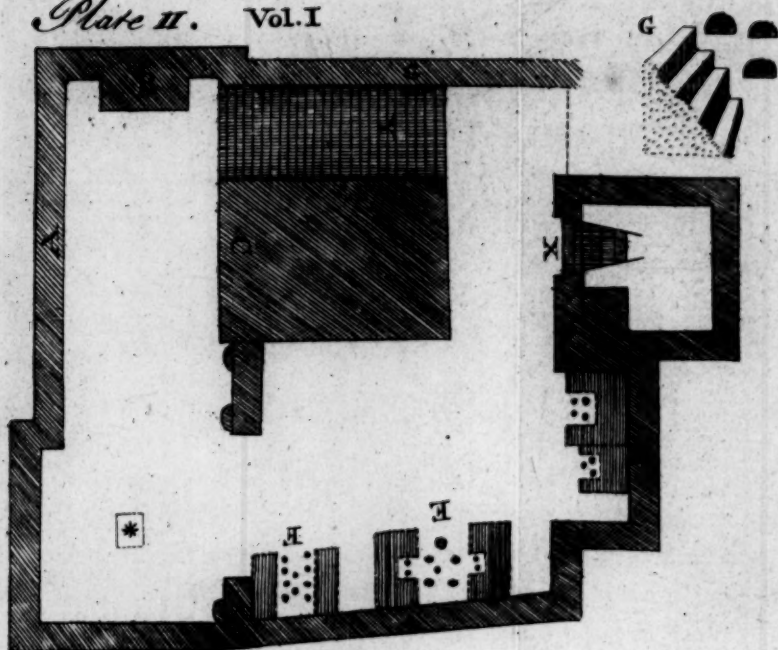
LETTER XXVI.

To Mr. R.

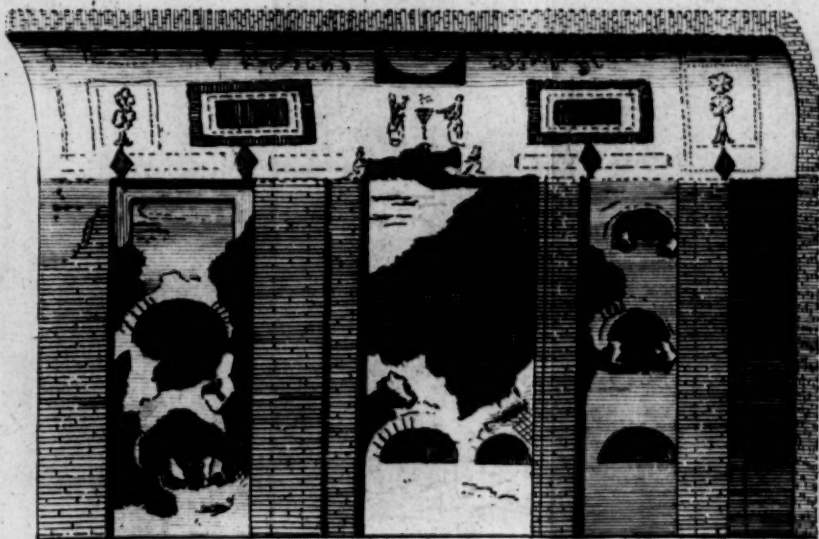
HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Aug. 2. 1742. N. S.*

I Here send you a draught of a sepulchre, discovered a few years ago; of which none has been hitherto communicated to the public. This sepulchre lies in a vineyard, belonging to the marquis MARIANI of Bologna, on the Viminal hill; between the gate of S. LORENZO, formerly *Porta Tiburtina*, and the gate *Porta Maggiore*, once called *Porta Prænestina*; about a hundred paces from the ruins of the temple of MINERVA *Medica*. It was discovered in 1736. Signor FICARONI, the pope's antiquary, makes mention of it, in his book intitled *Maschere Sceniche*, published

Plate II. Vol. I



A



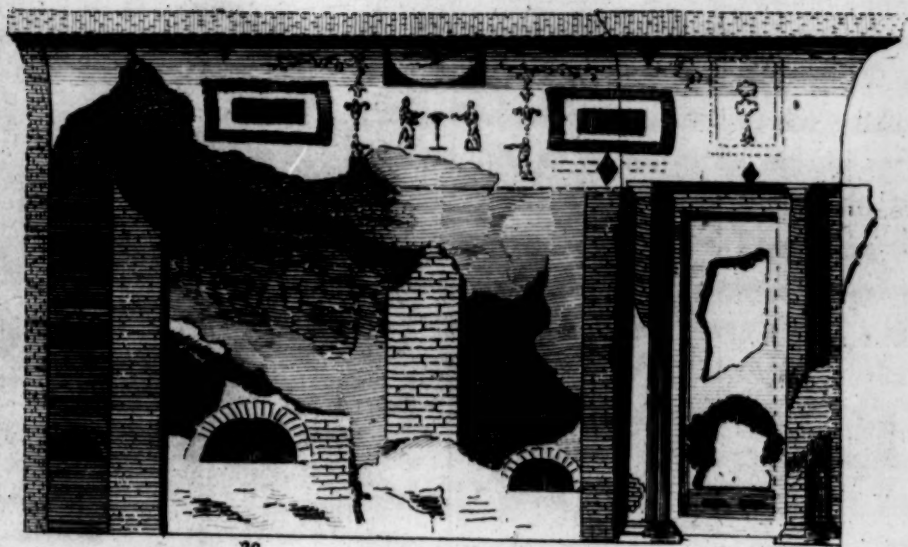
To GEORGE PITT, of Stratfieldsea ESQ^R. this

B

Between p. 128 & 129.



C



this Plate is Gratefully Inscribed.

room was covered with Mosaic, part of which remains onely in some places: and the whole building is in a ruinous condition, from the scandalous neglect of those, in whose possession it is.

The small compass, in which I was obliged to draw the principal room, would not permit me to be exact as to the roof; which is adorned with painting, and figures, and ornaments in stucco: which if you are desirous of having, I must design it upon a large piece of paper, in order to take in the whole. As to the plan, the height, and size of the rooms, &c. no care has been wanting to make them as exact as possible; and I have drawn a scale of Roman palms at the bottom, for your better information.——In the explanation of the drawing, the same letters have some-times a double reference, *viz.* A. B. C. D. E. F. G. T. and W. but they still denote things of the same nature, represented in a smaller or a larger compass, shewing their situation in different views.

H

LIBERT ET FAMILIAE L. ARR. VNTI. L. F TER.

FRANCESCO
BELARDI
ANNO DOMNI 1736

I

D. M. SVCCCESSI PRIMIGENIA SOR FECIT FRATRI BENEMERENTI ET PISSIMO HER VII ANNIS EGO LAMENTALE PEREGI NVNC RAPI OR TENEBRIS ET TEGIT OSSA LAP DESINE SOROR MEIAM FLERE SEPVLCHRO-HOC ETIAM MVLTIS REGIBVS-ORA TVLIT
--

K

HORTENSIA·FELICITAS
FECIT·VENERIAE·
FILIAE·DVLCISSI
MAE·Q·V·A·XI
M VIII
DIEB·XX

L

D M
MIN·DIAE ISMYRNAE
CRANIUS CORINTHIANUS
B·M

M

L·ARRVNTIVS
ANENCLETVS
SIBI·FILIO·CONIVGI
FECIT

N

L·ARR·MOSCHO
V·A·XIX·D·V·ATTALVS
ET·HELENE·PARENTES
FILIO·PIISSIMO·ET
SIBI·FECERVNT

O

EGLOGLE·L·
ARRVNTI·HILARI
V·A·XXX·

P

D M
THALLI·V·A·PII·M
III·D·VIII
ANTIOCHYS·ET·THALLVSA
PARENTES·F·DVLCISSIMO
FECERVNT·ET
ANTIOCHO·F·PIENTISSIMO
QVI·V·A·VIII·M·XLD·XXVII

Q

ARRVNTIA
L·L·SECUNDA
VI·A·XL

L·ARRVNTIVS
H·HALVS

R

ARRVNTIAE
PARTHENIONIS

ARRVNTIAE
SELENE

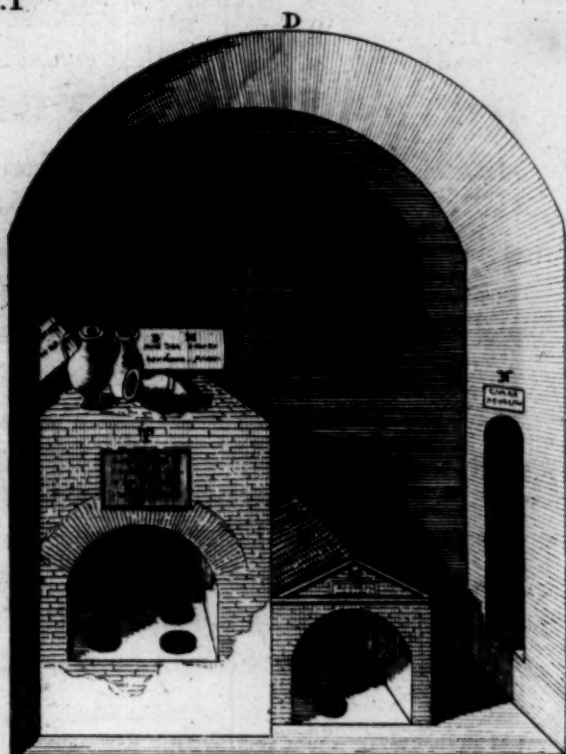
S

VII·LIAE·CLYMENE
A·VITELLIVS·ANTHVS
ET·FLORVS·
CONIVGI·CARISSIM
BENEMERENT·FECER
D
A·VITELLIQ·ANTHO·
VITELLIVS·ROMANVS
COL·VITELLIA·ANATOIE
L·P·B·M·

EXPLANATION of the DRAWINGS, &c.

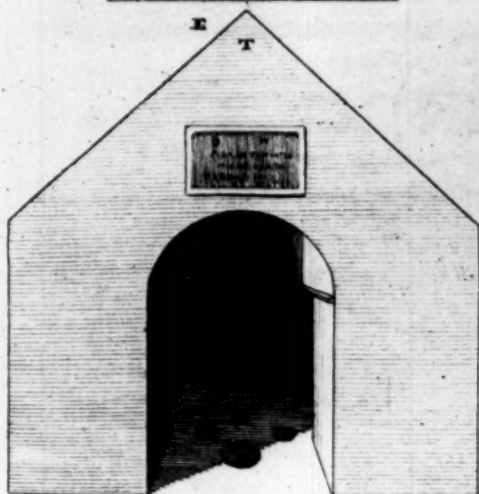
- A. The left side of the chief room, as one enters.
- B. The upper end.
- C. The right side.
- D. An arch turned, under which stand the *Conditoria* T, with the *Ollulæ* W.
- F. the Plan of the *Conditoria* T; in which likewise are those of the *Ollulæ* W.
- G. On the left hand, as ones goes down the modern steps, the fourth from the bottom, in the wall are these three *Columbaria*.
- H. An Inscription fixt over the door, as one goes down into the sepulchre, with the name of FRANCESCO BELARDI, who discovered it: the place of which could not be pointed out in the drawing.
- I. K. L. M. N. O. Inscriptions plac'd or fix'd on the *Conditoria*, where you see these letters mark'd.
- P. Q. R. S. Inscriptions, which lie broken about the rooms.
- T. *Conditoria*, form'd of brick, and at first covered over with plaister.
- W. *Ollulæ*, little pots, which are let into the floor, and contain burnt bones, ashes, &c.
- X. The old entrance.

Y. The



D M
ARVENTIAE HER
MIONE LARKVNI
HERMIAS PATER ET
HERMES CASA ET SI
BI ET POSTERIS SVIS

D M
ARVENTIAE FLORAE
NICEROS CONTYBERN
SVAE P' MPECITET SIBI
POSTERISQVE SVIS



To JOHN BOUVERIE Esq.^r this Plate is gratefully inscribed.



Y. The modern stairs, four and twenty in number.

Z. To draw this Place, I was obliged to creep through a hole; and when I was in, I found the ground began to give way; so that I was glad to get out again, as fast as I could. I imagine, this was the place, where the stairs continued to lead to the apartments below; those of the letter X being just over it.

There is no place to let in any light, except a little hole, which is over the star*; so that I was obliged to draw the whole by torch-light, which I found no small inconvenience.

Part of some of the letters in the *Inscriptions* are a little defaced by time, and there are some mistakes which were made by the work-man, chiefly by omissions, and particularly in the longest *Inscription* marked I. which, it is conjectured, if it were expressed in words at length, should run thus:

*Diis Manibus Successi Primigenia Soror fecit Fratri benemerenti
et piissimo.*

*Heres septem annis ego lamentale peregi;
Nunc rapior tenebris, et tegit ossa lapis.*

*Desine cara Soror me jam deslere sepulcro:
Hoc etiam multis Regibus ora tulit.*

In the *Inscription* over the *Conditorium* marked E. in the fifth line, the word following HERMES is TATA.

LETTER XXVII.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Sept. 10. 1742. N.S.*

WHEN in a former letter, I declined giving you a particular description of mount Vesuvius, I meant a new description of my own. But, upon reading over once more the *Introduction to the Istoria dell' incendio del Vesuvio*, &c. written by the Academy of sciences at Naples; I thought there were several curious observations, concerning the ancient and present form, the extent and height, and the internal parts of it, which would give you some entertainment, and be no improper addition to my Account.

This mountain, being separated from the chain of the Appennines, stands apart by itself, on the side of the bay of Naples, towards the east. The plains round about form a charming prospect; where the air is so good, that no better can be found any where. On every side are seen fruit-trees of different kinds, and vineyards that produce the most excellent wines. The foot of the mountain is no less fruitful: it was celebrated formerly, and it is still celebrated at this day, for the fertility of its little hills.

When one ascends higher, on the side which looks toward the south and the west, the face of things

things is intirely changed ; and one sees a tract of ground, which presents onely images of horror : no fruit-trees, no vines, no verdure of any kind ; nothing but ashes, pumice-stones, and cinders.——Where the mountain yields this terrible aspect, one part of it is separated from the other ; on the forefide of which, there lies a chain of little hills extending towards the north and east, which present to the neighbouring fields a front adorned with verdure : but the back part shews nothing but rocks, dried and burned up by the fire, and split into precipices. The highest point or top of these hills are called *Monte di Somma* ; which name it either takes from, or gives to, a town situated at the foot towards the north-east ; which yields a most delightful retirement, by the goodness of the air, and the excellency of the fruits.——Behind this range of hills, to the south, rises another summit apart by itself, in form of a cone : which is composed of nothing but a heap of stones, cinders, ashes and barren sand. This is what is properly called *Vesuvius* : the extremity of the highest point of which vomits out fire from time to time, and almost continually smoke.——It is however true, that in common language, these two names are often confounded : so that under the *Monte di Somma* is sometimes comprehended the other top, which throws out fire ; in like manner, as the ancients included

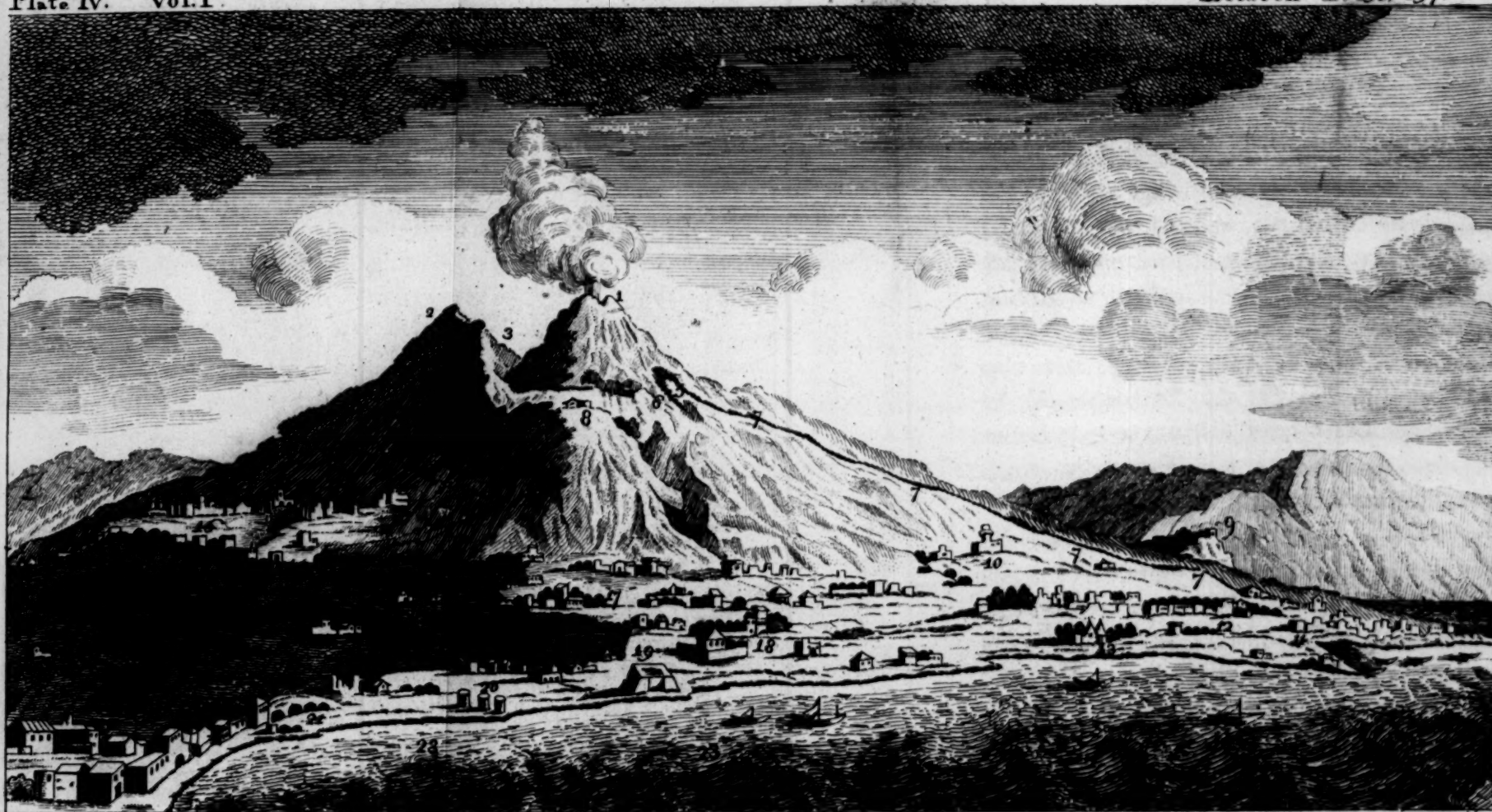
included the whole mountain under the name of *Vesuvius*.

By this short description, one may understand, that the lower bulk of this mountain forms, as it were, a pedestal, common to the two summits. The union of their base, and the division of their spires, cause them to be taken at a great distance, not for one single mountain, but for two; joined together to a certain degree of height, and from thence divided the one from the other.—Such is the constructure of *Vesuvius* in our days: but it is not likely, that it had the same appearance in the most remote ages. To be convinced of this, one need only call to mind the visible transfigurations, which it has been known to undergo, in the last, and in the present age.

That in ancient times *Vesuvius* consisted of one vast single pyramidal body, may justly be inferred from the testimony of ancient authors, who paint it in that state of unity. STRABO* says, that “Mount *Vesuvius* is surrounded on all sides with open fields extremely fruitful, excepting onely the summit, &c.” DION† expresses himself in a more explicate manner. “At first *Vesuvius* was of an equal height, on all sides; it then vomited out flames onely from the middle of its top: and therefore it is onely in that part, that its superficies has experienced the activity of fire; for

* *Lib. V. pag. 378:*

† *In Tito.*



To WILLIAM DRAKE of Shardeloes Esq. this Plate is gratefully inscribed.

for the rest of its circumference has been continued safe and sound to the present time. Hence it comes to pass, that, having suffered no damage, the brims of the most elevated circuit retain their first height; while the centre of the same has sunk, at the will of those eruptions which have wasted it. Its sinking down forms a pit, or large cavity, disposed in such a manner, that the whole mountain, if one may compare little things with great, does not ill resemble the form of an amphitheatre."

The torrents of liquified stones, which the mountain vomits up, when it exerts its fury, furnish a strong argument in confirmation of this opinion: for some of these are found in places, whither they could never possibly have come, had not Vesuvius formerly terminated in one single point. Of this there is a recent proof. A few years ago, at the Dominican convent della Madonna dell' Arco, in digging a well, at the depth of more than a hundred palms, the work-men discovered a torrent of that nature; having broken through it, they continued their work, till they were stopped by another, and afterwards by a third: in short, in less than the depth of three hundred palms, they found four beds of hardened matter, which exactly resembled the *Lava*, which is seen every day at the southern foot of the mountain.—Now, supposing the figure of

the mountain to have been the same formerly, which it is now, the melted matter, having rolled down the side, must have run into the vale which borders upon the volcano, on the north and east; and from thence it must have raised itself up, several hundreds of paces, in order to surmount an ascent, which would otherwise have hindered its access to the quarter, where the convent stands.

DION CASSIUS, in comparing Vesuvius to an amphitheatre, gives us an idea of it, which does not less agree with this opinion, than with the exact draught, which the same author has made of the whole mountain. According to him, the fire had not at all hurt the circumference, it was only *the centre of the biggest circuit*, which had been ruined by the eruption of the flames.— From hence it follows, that to DION's eyes, the middle, being made hollow, represented the *arena* of the amphitheatre; and the sides, the inner circumference. Can there be one person found, who can imagine, that he sees in the present form, the image, which this historian has left us?

However, by taking advantage of the light which he offers, every one may perceive, that one part of the circuit of this amphitheatre is preserved to this day. One discovers plainly this part in the northern hills, which form at present the Monte di Somma, and which inclose a good part
of

of the volcano.—This observation appears so much the truer, in that the same hills shew still the most evident traces of the fire, which raged in the concavity of their semi-circle. For one sees nothing there, but stones and rocks, all stamped, as it were, with the impression of the flames, all of the colour of burnt iron; as are other places, where we know that in our memory the flames have exercised their force.

Formerly, as well as now, Vesuvius commanded an open plain; no other mountain was joined to it: on which account, * some authors have suspected, that it owed its first appearance, solely to the rage of subterraneous fires. Be that as it will, one cannot but judge, that the roots of the mountain took up less space in former times, than they do at present: they must needs have been amplified by the continual eruption of ashes and stones; and above all by the afflux of melted matter, which in its congelation takes the hardness of a rock.—In the course of time, all these things must necessarily have swelled and dilated the foot of the mountain. For proof of this, one need only dig round about, particularly towards the south: for there one meets with three or four thick beds of petrified torrent, and of earth, and other kinds of matter, all confusedly mixed toge-

T 2 ther,

* CAMIL. PELLEG. *Campania Desc. ii. p. 314* SCOTTI *Itinrar. Italic. Part iii.*

ther, frequently to the depth of some scores of palms.

In pursuing this idea, we shall be convinced, that the sides of Vesuvius have a more gentle declivity now, than they formerly had : of which one may form a judgement, by inspecting the northern talus, which is the most steep, because it has undergone but little alteration, at least for these thousand years and more ; that is, ever since the mountain was divided into two summits, which make the fork.—Thus the ancient height still remains marked out to us, by the point of the northern hills, which form precisely the Monte di Somma : and this height, being once settled, places out of the reach of all objections what was said just now, *viz.* that the northern hills, the inward concavity of which appears all burnt, and hanging in a precipice, made a part of the circle, which struck DION's eyes, when he compared this mountain to an amphitheatre.

Having thus formed a general notion of the basis and height of the mountain, one may comprehend, not only the greatness of the whole mass, but likewise the extent of its summit.—Even in the age in which STRABO lived, the top appeared *esplanaded*, or like a glacis ; some ancient conflagration having, without doubt, taken off its point. But in DION's time, according to his own testimony, the middle had sunk in, by reason of
the

the continual eruptions, while the sides remained *safe and sound*. By this means, and at that time, it took the resemblance of an amphitheatre; such as one sees now in the Solfatara, and other neighbouring mountains, which may justly be illustrated by the same comparison.*

From that period of time, at which we have just now marked the state and condition of this mountain, its aspect must have begun to change in a prodigious manner: the conflagrations, the earthquakes, the abysses made in its bosom, all inseparable accidents attending violent eruptions, destroyed and ruined the part situated betwixt the south and the west; and their fury spared nothing, except the hills which look towards the east and north.—This ruin, this falling in of the top, might well gain ground, even to the borders of that place, where we see the volcano separated from the hills, which partly surround it. And now, behold a new aspect of Vesuvius; of which one can bring no other proof, than a plausible conjecture, because the contemporary authors have made no mention of it, or perhaps because their works are lost.—In short, as rivers, when they are swelled and rapid, carry away the ground from some of their banks, and add it to others: just so the violent burnings, which

* See PELLEGRIN *Disc. ii. Cap. 17. 18. 19* and consult his *Map of Campania*.

which had ruined so great a part of the mountain, might raise up from the bottom of its entrails various kinds of matter, and from time to time might still heap them upon one another; so as to form a new little mountain upon the plain, which we just now called the *Pedestal* of the two summits.—By this new little mountain, nothing else is meant, but the southern point or volcano; which, in process of time, has equalled the height of its elder sister, that stands on the north, the Monte di Somma.

That this volcano is the work of violent conflagrations, that it has been formed by the heaping up of ashes, rocks, and other materials, thrown out from above, one may judge by this single circumstance, that it keeps exactly the conic figure: the same, which a lump of earth retains, which has been cast up by a mole; the same, which a heap of sand or wheat, or any other small and dry things would preserve, were they let fall continually and perpendicularly. The internal boiling at first swelled the ground; then the ashes, stones, and other materials, blown up into the air, fell down almost directly near the mouth, which had vomited them up; and thus the pyramid was raised.

BUT PELLEGRIN is of a different opinion. He thinks, that the cinereous and burnt matter, of which the volcano is composed, is no other, either
in

in whole, or in part, than the remains of the primitive mass; he asserts, that the earth which augmented the sides of that mass, was detached from it by the force of the fire; and from thence he concludes, that the summit from whence one sees the flames mount up, remained alone in the midst of a kind of plain.—His notion may indeed be true; and so may ours also. We shall not dissemble at all in this matter; but shall own, that in phenomenas, where Nature, to signalize her power, makes use of the most surprizing means, such as are those of fire, one cannot imagine, nor propose any thing, without some apprehension of being mistaken; especially, when one has no assistance from the light of history.—Let us then content our-selves with having demonstrated, that the ancient form of Vesuvius was very different from the present; and that it was at first but one single mountain, from the foot to the summit. Whence we may very safely conclude, that its fork, so visible at this time, is no other than a later effect of its frequent and formidable conflagrations.

As the most proper conclusion to the preceding account of the ancient and present form of this mountain, I shall subjoin a short description given by the same gentlemen, of the state and condition,

tion, both external and internal, in which it was left by the last grand eruption in 1737.

There is no very faithful and very particular description of the state of Vesuvius before that time. Tho' several accounts have been published, yet none of them have those authentic marks and characters, which ought to accompanie an indubitable relation.—There is one thing, of which not onely we, but all the Neapolitans can assure the public, that before the last eruption, the southern summit, from whence the fire proceeded, was much higher than it is at this day. It was not onely higher, but it was likewise more sharply pointed; and so it appeared to those who viewed it from within the city.

The internal part of this top has also changed its disposition: this we infer from the manner in which the smoke is almost continually exhaling; not united in one single cloud, as it was formerly, because it then proceeded out of one single mouth. But now, as it proceeds out of five or six mouths, at some distance from one another, it forms five or six pillars: which appear very distinct before sun-rising, when the air is pure and calm: and if it sometimes get so together, as if it spouted out of the same vent, it is, when the evaporation becomes very copious, or else when the wind blows very briskly.

The





To NATH. CASTLETON Esq: this Plate is gratefully inscribed.

The circumference of Vesuvius, in its lowest and utmost extent, contains a compass of about forty Italian miles : but taken higher up, where it sensibly appears to every one to rise above the plain, the circuit is not more than thirty.—The height of the northern summit, measured upon the level of the sea, is about seven hundred and twenty Neapolitan * canes ; that of the southern summit, not above six hundred fourscore and six.---- The new crack, which was opened on the talus of the southern summit, and from which the greatest torrent was discharged, is five hundred fifty two canes above the sea.—The distance between the points of the two summits is about three hundred and forty ; and between their feet, in the place where the fork begins, commonly called *Atrio*, one hundred and fifty.

The mouth or bason, which is in the southern summit, is almost perfectly round ; and the longest diameter, which runs from east to west, is three hundred and fifty canes. This mouth has a kind of lip, which extends it-self inwardly, like the banks of a river, which have been washed away underneath. This lip runs almost round the whole mouth, except towards the west, where some very hard rocks jut out, composed of the very same

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matter

* The Neapolitan cane contains eight Neapolitan palms ; and a palm being a sixth part less than a Parisian foot, six palms are very near the same as five feet.

matter with the *Lava*. Towards the east, where this lip hangs over less than at other places, there is a declivity, which extends to the very bottom of the basin ; so that one might descend thereinto, tho' with a good deal of difficulty. This whole opening, as here described, is the mouth of an abyss, which penetrates the entrails of the mountain, in the shape of a cone, cut off at the point, and inverted ; the base of which is made by the aperture above. The sides of this abyss, towards the east, are all covered with ashes ; except where the points of rocks appear here and there through them. Round which rocks there are some secret vents, through which the smoke evaporates ; and likewise many concretions of sulphur, and of different salts.—On the south, the side is much steeper, tho' it be naturally cut into large steps of stone. The thickest clouds of smoke rise there ; or at least they did so, while we were making our observations : and doubtless on that account, the concretions of sulphur and of salts, are still more copious there, than on the eastern declivity.—On the west and north, the sides are almost perpendicular : from which there project several great stones, varnished, as it were, with sulphur ; the effect of the thick smoke, which rises on that side.—The bottom of this vast hollow extends a little longer from south to north ; and its shortest length is fifty canes.

During

During the course of our observations, there was a small lake of rain-water, collected together towards the southern side, which covered almost one half of this bottom. The water was of a livid colour, lukewarm, and frothy near the brink of the lake; and had a disagreeable taste of salt and sulphur. Its greatest depth was but two palms, or a little more; as we judged by some great stones thrown in.—A border of ashes, which rose in form of a quay, encompassed this little lake: upon which quay one might plainly perceive the traces of several little streams of water, which had run into the void space at the bottom of the bason, but were lost there in such a manner, that the whole appeared intirely dry.—This dry space was all deformed and rough, all full of chinks and cracks, and all clogged with yellowish salts and sulphur. It ended in a kind of *conque* between the west and north; and from this *conque*, the bottom of which was lower than the lake, issued from time to time a very thick smoke.

It was not possible to measure the depth of this bason, because there was no place to fix the instrument necessary for such an operation. Being desirous however to collect together all the information which the situation of the place permitted us to hope for, we made use of the best contrivance we could put in practice. We chose upon the northern brim of the bason, the place, where

the side, being almost perpendicular, had the fewest rocks that juttred out: so that in casting down stones, one might judge, that they would meet with very little obstacle. We then caused very large stones to be thrown down, at five different times: while persons, posted on the opposite brim of the bason, measured the time of the fall by the beating of the pulse. Now, the strokes of the pulse amounted almost always to the number of forty, whilst every stone was falling. Thus, taking every beating of the pulse for a second; and supposing, that the stone run from the point of vibration to the bottom of the bason, with an invariable rapidity; the depth of it would be four-score and four canes.

Tho' this account, Sir, may seem pretty long, yet I could not well have drawn it into a narrower compass, without omitting several curious particulars; which I dare say, will not be tedious to a person of your taste. And this confidence I am the more inclined to entertain, since I have your repeated orders to transmit to you, from time to time, whatever should be thought most worthy of notice, by,

HONOURED SIR,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R

LETTER XXVIII.

*To Mr. R.*HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Oct. 20. 1742. N. S.*

AS the following account of my subterraneous journey will be communicated no doubt by you, to the rest of the family, and perhaps to some of your acquaintance less learned than yourself; I have for the greater illustration, enlarged it with several additions, which I should have thought unnecessary, had it been designed solely for your perusal. And in the first place, I imagined there could not be a more proper Introduction to it, than the particular relation given by DION CASSIUS, * as abridged by XIPHILINUS, of that terrible eruption of Vesuvius, in the 1st year of TITUS VESPASIAN; which overwhelmed the city, the ruins of which I am going to describe. And this relation I shall exhibit in Dr. BURNET's † Translation, which I take to be a fine one; referring you to the original for your more intire satisfaction.

“ As a prelude to this tragedy, there were
 “ strange sights in the air, and after that follow-
 “ ed an extraordinary drought: then the earth
 “ begun to tremble and quake; and the concus-
 “ sions

* *Lib. LXVI.*† *Theory of the Earth. 8vo. Vol. II. Book iii. Chap. 7.*

“ fions were fo great, that the ground feem’d to
“ rife and boil up in fome places, and in others
“ the tops of the mountains funk in, or tumbled
“ down : at the fame time were great noifes and
“ founds heard ; fome were fubterraneous, like
“ thunder within the earth ; others above ground,
“ like groans or bellowings. The fea roared, the
“ heavens rattled with a fearful noife, and then
“ came a fudden and mighty crack, as if the
“ frame of nature had broke, or all the moun-
“ tains of the earth had fallen down at once. At
“ length Vefuvius burft, and threw out of its
“ womb, firft, huge ftones, then a vaft quantity
“ of fire and fmoke ; fo as the air was all dark-
“ ened, and the fun was hid, as if he had been
“ under a great eclipfe. The day was turn’d into
“ night, and light into darknefs ; and the fright-
“ ed people thought the giants were making war
“ againft heaven, and fanfied they faw the fha-
“ pes and images of giants in the fmoke, and heard
“ the found of their trumpets : others thought,
“ the world was returning to its firft Chaos, or
“ going to be all confumed with fire. In this
“ general confufion and confternation, they knew
“ not where to be fafe ; fome run out of the fields
“ into the houfes, others out of the houfes into
“ the fields ; thofe that were at fea haftened to
“ land, and thofe that were at land endeavoured
“ to get to fea ; ftill thinking every place fafer
than

“ than that where they were. Besides groffer
 “ lumps of matter, there was thrown out of the
 “ mountain such a prodigious quantity of ashes,
 “ as cover’d the land and sea, and filled the air,
 “ so as besides other damages, the birds, beasts,
 “ and fishes, with men, women, and children
 “ were destroyed, within such a compass; and
 “ two entire cities,* Herculanium and Pompeios,
 “ were

* According to this account, *Pompeii*, which is the right name, was destroyed at that time, as well as *Herculaneum*. But SENECA, in his *Natural Questions*, Book VI. Chap. 11. informs us, that “ *Pompeii* was overturned by an earthquake, “ on the Nones, (or fifth) of February, REGULUS and VER- “ GINIUS being Consuls; and that onely part of *Hercula- “ neum* fell, and left the remainder standing in a dubious “ manner, which continued so in his time.” This earth- quake happened in the 9th year of NERO CLAUDIUS, and the 63d of CHRIST; being sixteen years before the eruption in the time of TITUS, which intirely overwhelmed and de- stroyed the remaining part of *Herculaneum*. But many au- thors, with DION, refer the destruction of both cities to this eruption; and among them SANFELICIUS in his *Campania*.

Pompeii, or *Pompæa*, according to SOLINUS, was built by HERCULES, at his return from Spain. It stood at a con- siderable distance from the sea, upon the river Sarnus, and was a common port or harbour, for the people of Nola, Nu- ceria, and Acerræ; that river being very convenient for the exportation and importation of goods. SISENNA, DIONY- SIUS, and STRABO, say, that it was a small town: but TACI- TUS calls it *colonia*; PLINY the elder, *municipium*; and SE- NECA, *celebrem urbem*. It stood, as CLUVER tells us, about four miles south from *Herculaneum*, at the place, where there is now a little town called *Scafati*. But ITTIGIUS, as mentioned page 116. says, it stood where *Casiel Annuntiata* now is; which according to CLUVER, is four miles from *Scafati*, and as many from *Torre del Greco*, where *Hercula- neum* once flourished. CICERO had a villa at *Pompeii*, called *Pompeianum*; which he mentions several times, especially in his *Epistles* to ATTICUS.

“ were overwhelm’d with a shower of ashes, as
 “ the people were sitting * in the theatre. Nay
 “ these ashes were carried by the winds, over
 “ the Mediterranean into Africk, and into Ægypt
 “ and Syria : and at Rome they choak’d the air
 “ on a sudden, so as to hide the face of the sun ;
 “ whereupon the people not knowing the cause,
 “ as not having yet got the news from Campa-
 “ nia, of the eruption of Vesuvius, could not ima-
 “ gine what the reason should be ; but thought
 “ the heavens and the earth were coming toge-
 “ ther, the sun coming down, and the earth go-
 “ ing to take its place above.”

It was at the same time, and by the very same
 eruption, that the elder PLINY, then admiral of
 the Roman fleet, lost his life : of which cata-
 strophe, PLINY the younger, in two letters to
 TACITUS, gives a most affecting narrative. The
 greatest part of both which I shall beg leave to
 subjoin, in the † English translation, as a sup-
 plement to DION’s account ; since they contain a
 particular description of many circumstances of
 this prodigious conflagration, as they appeared at
 Misenum, and from thence all along the coast to
 Stabiæ. If the translation raise in you any dis-
 gust,

* In the original it is *ἰν θεάτρῳ τοῦ ὁμίλου αὐτῆς καθημένῳ*,
 referring solely to *Πομπηίου*, which immediately precedes,
hujus populo sedente in theatro.

† Instead of Mr. HENLEY’s *Translation*, it was thought
 proper to substitute that of Mr MELMOTH, lately published.

gust, you will find a proper remedy at hand, in the elegancy of the original.

* “ He was at that time with the fleet under
 “ his command at Misenum. On the † 23d of
 “ August, about one in the afternoon, my Mo-
 “ ther desired him to observe a cloud, which ap-
 “ peared of a very unusual size and shape. He
 “ had just returned from taking || the benefit of
 “ the sun, and after ‡ bathing himself in cold
 “ water, and taking a slight repast, was retired
 “ to his study: he immediately arose, and went
 “ out upon an eminence, from whence he might
 “ more distinctly view this very uncommon ap-
 “ pearance. It was not at that distance discerni-
 “ ble from what mountain this cloud issued, but
 “ it was found afterwards to ascend from mount
 “ Vesuvius. I cannot give you a more exact
 “ description of its figure, than by resembling
 “ it to that of a pine-tree, for it shot up a great
 “ height in the form of a trunk, which extend-
 “ ed itself at the top into a sort of branches; oc-
 “ casioned, I imagine, either by a sudden gust of
 Vol. I. X “ air

* *Lib. VI. Epist. 16.*

† Mr. HENLEY translates it *August the twenty 2d.* The original is *nono cal. septembris*, which is *August 24th.*

|| The Romans used to lie or walk naked in the sun, after anointing their bodies with oil; which was esteemed as greatly contributing to health, and therefore daily practised by them. MELM.

‡ Orig. *mox frigidam gustaverat.* HEN. taken a draught of cool water.

“ air that impelled it, the force of which decreased
 “ as it advanced upwards, or the cloud itself, be-
 “ ing pressed back again by its own weight, ex-
 “ panded in this manner : it appeared sometimes
 “ bright, and sometimes dark and spotted, as it
 “ was either more or less impregnated with earth
 “ and cinders. This extraordinary phenomenon
 “ excited my Uncle’s philosophical curiosity to
 “ a nearer view of it.

“ He ordered a light vessel to be got ready,
 “ and gave me the liberty, if I thought proper
 “ to attend him. I rather chose to continue my
 “ studies ; for, as it happened, he had given me
 “ an employment of that kind. As he was coming
 “ out of the house* he received a note from
 “ RECTINA the wife of BASSUS, who was in
 “ the utmost alarm at the imminent danger
 “ which threatened her ; for her villa being si-
 “ tuated at the foot of mount Vesuvius, there
 “ was no way to escape but by sea ; she earnestly
 “ intreated him therefore to come to her assistance.
 “ He accordingly changed his first design, and
 “ what he began with a philosophical, he pur-
 “ sued with an heroical turn of mind. He or-
 “ dered the gallies to put to sea, and went him-
 “ self on board with an intention of assisting not
 “ only

* Both the manuscript and printed copies varying extremely, in what follows, the Translator has adopted the conjecture of GESNERUS as the most satisfactory. MELM.

“ only RECTINA, but several others ; for the
 “ villas stand extremely thick upon that beau-
 “ tiful coast. When hastening to the place from
 “ whence others fled with the utmost terror, he
 “ steer’d his direct course to the point of danger ;
 “ and with so much calmness and presence of
 “ mind, as to be able to make and dictate his
 “ observations upon the motion and figure of
 “ that dreadful scene. He was now so nigh
 “ the mountain, that the cinders, which grew
 “ thicker and hotter the nearer he approach’d,
 “ fell into the ships, together with pumice-
 “ stones, * and black pieces of burning rock :
 “ they were likewise in danger not only of † be-
 “ ing a-ground by the sudden retreat of the sea,
 “ but also from the vast fragments which rolled
 “ down from the mountain, and obstructed all
 “ the shore.

“ Here he stoped to consider whether he
 “ should return back again : to which the pilot
 “ advising him, *Fortune*, said he, *befriends the*
 “ *brave ; Carry me to Pomponianus*. POMPONIA-
 “ NUS was then at ‖ Stabiæ, separated by a gulf,
 “ which the sea, after several insensible windings,

X 2

“ forms

* Orig. *nigrique et ambusti et fracti igne lapides*. HEN. and others, burnt to a coal, &c.

† Orig. *jam vadum subitum*. HEN. soon the passage appear’d to be too rapid.

‖ Now *Castel à mer di Stabia*, about eight miles from *Torre del Greco*, where *Herculaneum* once stood.

“ forms upon that shore. He had already sent
 “ his baggage on board ; for tho’ he was not
 “ at that time in actual danger, yet being with-
 “ in the view of it, and indeed extremely near,
 “ if it should in the least increase, he was deter-
 “ mined to put to sea * as soon as the wind should
 “ change. It was favourable, however, for car-
 “ rying my Uncle to POMPONIANUS, whom he
 “ found in the greatest consternation: he em-
 “ braced him with tenderness, encouraging and
 “ exhorting him to keep up his spirits; and the
 “ more to dissipate his fears he ordered, with an
 “ air of unconcern, the baths to be got ready ;
 “ when after having bathed, he sat down to sup-
 “ per with great chearfulness, or at least (what is
 “ equally heroic) with all the appearance of it.
 “ In the mean while the eruption from mount
 “ Vesuvius flamed out in several places with
 “ much violence, which the darkness of the night
 “ contributed to render still more visible and
 “ dreadful. But my Uncle, in order to sooth the
 “ apprehensions of his friend, assured him it was
 “ only the burning of the villages, which the
 “ country people had abandoned to the flames:
 “ after this he retired to rest, and it is most cer-
 “ tain that he was so little discomposed as to fall
 “ into a deep sleep ; for being pretty fat, and
 “ breathing

* Orig. *si contrarius ventus resedisset*. HEN. if the wind
 had once turned contrary.

“ breathing hard, those who attended without ac-
 “ tually hear’d him snore. The court which led
 “ to his apartment being now almost filled with
 “ stones and ashes, if he had continued there any
 “ time longer, it would have been impossible for
 “ him to have made his way out ; it was thought
 “ proper therefore to awaken him. He got up,
 “ and went to POMPONIANUS and the rest of his
 “ company, who were not unconcern’d enough
 “ to think of going to bed. They consulted to-
 “ gether whether it would be more prudent to
 “ trust to the houses, which now shook from side
 “ to side with frequent and violent concussions ;
 “ or fly to the open fields, where the calcined
 “ stones and cinders, tho’ light indeed, yet fell
 “ in large showers, and threatned destruction. In
 “ this distress they resolved for the fields, as the
 “ less dangerous situation of the two : a resolu-
 “ tion which, while the rest of the company were
 “ hurried into it by their fears, my Uncle em-
 “ braced upon cool and deliberate consideration.
 “ They went out then, having pillows tied
 “ upon their heads with napkins ; and this was
 “ their whole defence against the storm of stones
 “ that fell round them. Tho’ it was now day
 “ every where else, with them it was darker than
 “ the most obscure night, * excepting only what
 “ light

* Orig. *quam tamen faces multæ variaque lumina solvebant.*
 HEN. but it was something dissipated by a multitude of lights
 and flambeaux.

“ light proceeded from the fire and flames. They
 “ thought proper to go down farther upon the
 “ shore, to observe * if they might safely put
 “ out to sea, but they found the waves still run
 “ extremely high and boisterous. There my Un-
 “ cle having drank a draught or two of cold wa-
 “ ter, threw himself down upon a cloth which
 “ was spread for him; when immediately the
 “ flames and a strong smell of sulphur, which
 “ was the forerunner of them, dispersed the rest
 “ of the company, and obliged him to arise. He
 “ raised himself up with the assistance of two of
 “ his servants, and instantly fell down dead;
 “ suffocated, as I conjecture, by some gross and
 “ noxious vapor, † having always had weak
 “ lungs, and frequently subject to a difficulty of
 “ breathing. As soon as it was light again, which
 “ was not ’till the third day after this melancholy
 “ accident, his body was found intire, and with-
 “ out any marks of violence upon it, || exactly in
 “ the same posture that he fell, and looking more
 “ like a man asleep than dead.

* “ The

* *Orig. ecquid jam mare admitteret.* HEN. as far as the sea allow’d them.

† *Orig. clausoque stomacho, qui illi naturâ invalidus et angustus, et frequenter interstans erat.* HEN. and the passages of his stomach, naturally weak and narrow, and often feverish, were shut up by suffocation.

|| *Orig. opertumque ut fuerat indutus.* HEN. and cover’d with the dress in which he dy’d.

* “ The letter which, in compliance with your
 “ request, I wrote to you concerning the death of
 “ my Uncle, has raised, it seems, your curiosity
 “ to know what terrors and dangers attended me
 “ while I continued at Misenum; for there, I
 “ think, the account in my former broke off:

Tho’ my shock’d soul recoils, my tongue shall tell.

ÆNEID ii. by Mr. PITT.

“ My Uncle having left us, I pursued the studies
 “ which prevented my going with him, ’till it
 “ was time to bathe. After which I went to sup-
 “ per, and from thence to bed; where my sleep
 “ was greatly broken and disturbed. There had
 “ been for many days before some shocks of an
 “ earthquake, which the less surprized us as they
 “ are extremely frequent in Campania; but they
 “ were so particularly violent that night, that
 “ they not only shook every thing about us,
 “ but seemed indeed to threaten total destruction.
 “ My Mother flew to my chamber, where she
 “ found me rising, in order to awaken her.
 “ We went out into a small court belonging to
 “ the house, which separated the sea from the
 “ buildings.....

“ † Tho’ it was now morning, the light was
 “ exceedingly faint and languid; the buildings all
 “ around

* *Lib. VI. Ep. 20.*

† *Orig. Jam hora diei prima, et adhuc dubius et quasi languidus dies.* HEN. It was now seven in the morning, and the day as yet was breaking, and hardly more than twilight. This was on August 24.

“ around us tottered, and tho’ we stood upon
 “ open ground, yet as the place was narrow and
 “ confined, there was no remaining there without
 “ certain and great danger : we therefore resolved
 “ to quit the town. The people followed us in
 “ the utmost consternation, and (as to a mind
 “ distracted with terror, every suggestion seems
 “ more prudent than its own) pressed in great
 “ crowds about us in our way out. Being got at
 “ a convenient distance from the houses, we stood
 “ still, in the midst of a most dangerous and
 “ dreadful scene. The * chariots which we had
 “ ordered to be drawn out, were so agitated back-
 “ wards and forwards, tho’ in the open fields,
 “ that we could not keep them steady, even by
 “ supporting them with large stones. The sea
 “ seemed † to roll back upon itself, and to be
 “ driven from its banks by the convulsive motion
 “ of the earth ; it is certain at least the shore was
 “ considerably enlarged, and several sea-animals
 “ were left upon it. On the other side, a black
 “ and dreadful cloud bursting with an igneous
 “ serpentine vapor, darted out a long train of
 “ fire, resembling flashes of lightening, but much
 “ larger.

“ Soon afterwards the cloud seem’d to descend,
 “ and cover the whole ocean ; as indeed it in-
 “ tirely

* Orig. *Vehicula*. HEN. carriages.

† Orig. *in se resorberi*. . . . *videbatur*. HEN. appear’d in
a kind of eddy.

“ tirely hid the island of Caprea, and the pro-
 “ montory of Misenum. My Mother strongly
 “ conjured me to make my escape at any rate,
 “ which as I was * young, I might easily do: as
 “ for herself, she said, her age and corpulency
 “ rendered all attempts of that sort impossible;
 “ however she should willingly meet death, if
 “ she should have the satisfaction of seeing that
 “ she was not the occasion of mine. But I abso-
 “ lutely refused to leave her, and taking her by
 “ the hand, I led her on: she complied with great
 “ reluctance, and not without many reproaches
 “ to herself for retarding my flight. The ashes
 “ now began to fall upon us, tho’ in no great
 “ quantity. I turned my head, and observed
 “ behind us a thick smoke, which came rolling
 “ after us like a torrent. I proposed while we
 “ had yet any light, to turn out of the high road,
 “ lest we should be pressed to death in the dark,
 “ by the crowd that followed.

“ We had scarce stepped out of the path, when
 “ a darkness over-spread us, not like that of a
 “ cloudy night, or when there is no moon, but
 “ of a room when it is shut up, and all the lights
 “ extinct. Nothing then was to be hear’d but
 “ the shrieks of women, the screams of children,
 “ the cries of men; some calling for their child-
 “ ren, others for their parents, others for their
 VOL. I. Y husbands,

* But eighteen years of age.

“ husbands, and only distinguishing each other by
 “ their voices ; one lamenting his own fate, ano-
 “ ther that of his family ; some wishing to die, from
 “ the very fear of dying ; some lifting up their
 “ hands to the gods ; but * the greater part ima-
 “ gining that the last and eternal night was come,
 “ which was to destroy both the † gods and the
 “ world together. Among these there were some
 “ who augmented the real terrors by imaginary
 “ ones ; and made the frightened multitude falsely
 “ believe ‖ that Misenum was actually in flames.
 “ At length a glimmering light appeared, which
 “ we imagined to be rather the forerunner of an
 “ approaching burst of flames, (as in truth it
 “ was) than the return of day : however the fire §
 “ fell at a distance from us : then again we were
 “ immersed in thick darkness, and a heavy shower
 “ of ashes rained upon us ; which we were obliged
 “ every now and then to shake off, otherwise we
 “ should have been crushed and buried in the
 “ heap. I might boast, that during all this scene
 “ of horror, not a sigh or expression of fear e-
 “ scaped from me, had not my support been
 “ founded

* Orig. *plures nusquam jam deos ullos . . . interpretabantur.*
 HEN. a multitude disbeliev'd all the Gods.

† The Stoics and Epicureans held, that the world was
 to be destroyed by fire, and all things fall again into origi-
 nal chaos, not excepting even the national gods themselves.

‖ Orig. *Miseni illud ruisse, illud ardere.* HEN. that *this*
 house at Misenum was fallen, *that* was burnt.

§ Orig. *substitit.* HEN. stood.

“ founded in that miserable, * tho’ strong consolation, that all mankind were involved in the same calamity, and that I imagined I was perishing with the world itself.

“ At last this dreadful darkness was dissipated by degrees, like a cloud or smoke; the real day returned, and even the sun appeared, tho’ very faintly, and as when an eclipse is coming on. Every object that presented itself to our eyes (which were extremely weakened) seemed changed, being covered over with white ashes, as with a deep snow. We returned to Misenum, where we refreshed ourselves as well as we could, and passed an anxious night between hope and fear; tho’ indeed, with much a larger share of the latter: for the earthquake still continued, while several enthusiastic people run up and down † heightening their own and their friends calamities, by terrible predictions. However, my Mother and I, notwithstanding the danger we had passed, and that which still threatened us, had no thoughts of leaving the place, ’till we should receive some account of my Uncle.”

Y 2

These

* Orig. *magno tamen mortalitatis solatio*. HEN. this consolation, not very reasonable indeed, but natural enough.

† Orig. *terrificis vaticinationibus et sua et aliena mala ludificabantur*. HEN. entertain’d their own apprehensions, and those of others, with frightful presages.—From this, and some other expressions, one may apprehend, that Mr. ORATOR translated these *Epistles* from the French.

These lively descriptions, particularly the latter, by so great a man, who was an eye-witness of the rage of this volcano, prepare the traveller for the most advantageous view of the ruins of *, a noble city ; which was overwhelmed by it, and has layn undiscovered about sixteen centuries and an half. In taking this view, his memory will be exercised in recalling to mind all the real transactions in this scene, which he has found recorded in history ; his curiosity will be excited to examine, with the nicest care, its present situation and condition ; and his imagination exerted, in forming various ideas of its beauty and magnificence in its prosperity, and of the consternation and confusion at the time of its destruction.

Tho'

* This city was called HERCULANEUM or HERCULANIUM, not HERCULANUM, as it is corruptly read in the common Editions of CICERO's Works. DIONYSIUS HALICARNASSENSIS says *Lib. I.* that it was built by HERCULES, at the haven where his fleet anchored, after his return from Spain. According to STRABO *Lib. V.* it stood upon a promontory, that run a good way into the sea : and lying open to the south-west had a very healthful situation. SISENNA tells us, that it stood on a high place, between two rivers ; DIONYSIUS, that it had very safe havens, at all seasons ; and CLUVER, that those havens lay on each side of the promontory. It belonged at first, together with Pompæa, as STRABO informs us, to the Oscians, then to the Tyrrhenians and Pelasgians, and afterwards to the Samnitiens, who were driven out by the Romans. It was about six miles from Naples, near the place, where Torre del Greco stands ; which village, as CLUVER assures us, is now situated on a promontory, that certainly extended farther into the sea, before this eruption of Vesuvius ; which filled up the bay on the north-east, adjacent to the promontory, with ashes and stones.

Tho' according to your orders, Sir, I have made the strictest inquiry, I can not meet with any particular account of it, either in French or Italian. You tell me, that * Signor CAMILLO PADERNI,

* In a *Letter*, written by Mr. WILLIAM HAMMOND from Naples, Mar. 7. 1731-2. communicated to the Royal Society by WILLIAM SLOANE, Esq; and published in the *Philosophical Transactions*, N^o. 456. the first mention is made of the discovery of this subterraneous city: but it is very short and imperfect, and has several mistakes. " At Refina
" about four miles from Naples, under the mountain,
" within half a mile of the seaside, there is a well in a poor
" man's yard; down which about thirty yards there is a
" hole, which some people have the curiosity to creep
" into, and may afterwards creep a good way under-ground,
" and with lights find foundations of houses and streets:
" which, by some it is said, was in the time of the Ro-
" mans a city called *Aretina*, others say *Port Hercules*,
" where the Romans usually embarked from for Africa. I
" have seen the Well, which is deep, and a good depth of
" water at the bottom; that I never cared to venture down,
" being heavy and the ropes bad." This account is not
given by Mr HAMMOND, as his own, but as transmitted to
him by his partner Mr. JOHN GREEN: so that the Author
is not known.

The next Account is in a *Letter* from Mr. GEORGE KNAP-
TON to his brother Mr. CHARLES, printed in N^o. 458. for
the months of Sept. Oct. Nov. and Dec. 1740. part of which,
shewing the manner of his going down into this new dis-
covered city, here follows.

" *Herculaneum* is under a town called *Portici*, a quarter
" of a mile from the sea; and has no other road to it, but
" that of the town-well. An old man, living next door to the
" well, told me, that he was one of those employed in dig-
" ging there; and that they began twenty seven years ago,
" and worked five years; that the best part of the Duke di
" Belbofi's present estate was found there: the most princi-
" pal things were, two columns of oriental alabaster, which
" were sold for 50,000 ducats: they had found also many
" fine statues, the best of which he sold, and some he had
" sent to Lorrain. " At

PADERNI, and two of our own countrey-men, have written some Letters about it; Extracts of which have been published in the *Philosophical Transactions*: which I should have been very glad to have seen. They would have been, I imagine, of considerable service to me, in preventing a needless repetition of some particulars, which no doubt are there mentioned; or in directing my curiosity, and putting me upon a more accurate examination of them.

When

“ At our coming to the well, which is in a small square, surrounded with miserable houses, filled with miserable ugly old women, they soon gathered about us, wondring what brought us thither: but when the men who were with us, broke away the paltry machine, with which they used to draw up small buckets of water, I thought we should have been stoned by them: 'till perceiving one more furious than the rest, whom we found to be Padrona of the well, by applying a small bit of money to her, we made a shift to quiet the tumult. Our having all the tackle for descending to seek, gave time for all the town to gather round us, which was very troublesome: for, when any one offered to go down, he was prevented either by a wife, or a mother; so that we were forced to seek a motherless batchelor to go first. It being very difficult for the first to get in, the well being very broad, so that they were obliged to swing him in, and the people above making such a noise, that the man in the well could not be heard, obliged our company to draw their swords, and threaten any one who spoke with death. This caused a silence, after which our guide was soon landed, who pulled us in by the legs as we came down.

“ The well is in some parts very streight, in others wide, and cut in a most rude manner. Towards the bottom, where you go into the city, it is very broad; which they made so, to turn the columns, which were brought up. The entrance is 82 feet from the top of the well: it is large, and branches out into many ways.

When about two years ago, in company with Mr. C. I made my first visit to this subterraneous city, we descended by the well, the digging of which occasioned its discovery; and at our return from under-ground, we ascended by the steps of a theatre: but when I visited it the second time, we went down by the steps, and returned the same way. These steps are seventy eight in number, which brought us to the seats of the theatre; which, from the uppermost down to the area, were thirty three. We walked near a mile and a half in the narrow passages, which they have dug, and are still digging, in order to make new discoveries. As one passes along, one sees parts of houses, fluted pillars, broken statues, pedestals, &c. some of which remain standing upright in their ancient situation; but the rest, being thrown down, in whole, or in part, lie in all the variety of confusion that can be imagined. *****

It is with no small trouble, and not without some danger, that these wonderful antiquities are viewed: the passages are so narrow, and the earth and stones on each side, and over head, impend in so threatening a manner, that one cannot think ones self intirely secure from some fatal accident. Yet both the pains and the peril are much
over-

* That part of this relation, which is here omitted, is supplied by the following Letter, from another person; which contains a more particular and distinct description, and came accidentally into the Editor's hands.

over-balanced by the pleasure and satisfaction. A pleasure, which, tho' it affects in a serious and melancholy manner, is not the less rational on that account. A satisfaction, not unlike that, which an intelligent person receives by seeing the tombs in Westminster-abbey, or at S. Denis in France ; or, to bring the comparison still nearer, such as he would receive, by descending into the vaults below, and there contemplating the poor remains of so many illustrious persons, who once made so great a figure in the world. Such considerations are of great service to all, especially to those in lower stations ; and shew the unreasonableness of repining, or being at all uneasy, at the common lot of all mankind.

But the visiting of the sepulchre of some famous city affords both entertainment and consolation in a still higher degree. In walking among the ruins of this place, I could not but reflect upon the populousness of it, in the flourishing state of the Roman empire ; when large fleets were continually sailing from hence to Afric, and other parts of the world, or returning hither laden with the richest spoils. What hurry, what noise, what splendor and magnificence then ! Now, what quiet, what silence, what darkness, and desolation ! --- This put me in mind of *SERVIVS SLPICIVS*' consolatory letter to *CICERO* on the death of his daughter ; in which among other fine things he
says ;

says: * “ On my return from Asia, I began to
 “ contemplate the prospect of the countries
 “ round me : Ægina was behind, Megara before
 “ me ; Piræus on the right ; Corinth on the
 “ left : all which towns, once famous and flourish-
 “ ing, now lie overturned, and buried in their
 “ ruins : upon this sight, I could not but think
 “ presently within myself, alas ! how do we poor
 “ mortals fret and vex ourselves, if any of our
 “ friends happen to die, or to be killed, whose
 “ life is yet so short ; when the carcasses of so
 “ many noble cities lie here exposed before me
 “ in one view ? Why wilt thou not then com-
 “ mand thyself, *SERVIVS*, and remember, that
 “ thou art born a man ? Believe me, I was not
 “ a little confirmed by this contemplation.”

Such kind of contemplations seem more parti-
 cularly proper to confirm a traveller ; not onely
 in respect of his friends and acquaintance, whom
 he may have left behind for several years ; but
 likewise in respect of himself, as exposed to so
 many dangerous accidents ; against which if not
 well fortified, he can meet with little or no satis-
 faction in his travels. Innocency of life, and de-
 pendence upon the Divine providence are, no
 doubt, the best and most solid foundations of
 fortitude against all events. But, as no rational
 person can be so fondly partial to himself, as to

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imagine,

* *Ep. Fam. iv. 5.*

imagine, that the natural course of things should be suspended on his account ; the reflection upon the fate of several cities may be of very great use. And of the greater, if the city did not perish by a gradual decay, which may be called a natural death ; but by one that was violent and sudden, being overwhelmed and buried, as Herculaneum was ; and perhaps many thousands of persons with it, which was the case of Pompeii. How inconsiderable, how trifling, must any impartial man own the loss of one single person to be, if compared with that of a whole city ; and why should he make an exception, in favour of himself, from being that single person ?

I have indulged my-self the longer in expressing some of my thoughts on this occasion, to shew you, Sir, that I have not intirely forgotten your advice, That I should endeavour to form proper reflections upon the extraordinary things which I might see abroad. And I was likewise desirous to remove a prejudice, which, from the conduct of too many of my profession, you may be apt to entertain, That an application to painting takes a person off from thinking, and by disuse brings on a kind of incapacity for it. But this ill consequence is only accidental ; and ought not to be imputed to the art, but to the levity, vanity, and folly of pretended or real artists. Few even of the latter have had the advantage of
so

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so good an education; which I shall always remember, with gratitude to heaven, and to you: and shall never be so fond of the character of a mere painter, as to suffer those fair outlines of literature and religion, by you so carefully drawn, to be either defaced, or obscured, by being filled up with gaudy and false colours. Such, I know, may glare a little for the present, but cannot possibly stand the test of futurity: for which, as a rational creature, I own my-self to be ambitious of painting; and hope, that this end will ever be kept in view, by,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R XXIX.

BY the only book I have had to consult on this occasion, which is *Theſaurus*, I find, that this town was anciently called Herculæanum; which is said to have stood just where this subterraneous town is now; that is, either in the very spot, where the town Torre del Greco now is, or very near it, at the foot of mount Vesuvio. What is now seen of it is not above half an English mile from thence, as I take it: and, as it was in all likelihood a large place, it may upon farther discovery be found to extend itself to Torre del Greco, and even beyond it.

Before I give such a description of those remains as I am able, it may be first necessary to acquaint you, that, for fear of accidents,* the passages they have dug out (which have been quite at a venture) are seldom higher, or broader, than are necessary for a man of my size to pass along conveniently. This is the cause, that you have but an imperfect view of these things in general;

* Signor CAMILLO PADERNI, in both his *Letters* to Mr. ALLEN RAMSAY, complains of the mismanagement in digging these passages, and in taking out the pictures, and other curiosities. In the first, dated from *Rome*, Nov. 20. 1739. he says: "Signor GIOSEPPE COUART tells me, they enter into this place by a pit, like a well, to the depth of eighty eight Neapolitan palms; and then dig their way after the manner of the Catacombs, under the bituminous matter, thrown out of the mountain, and called by the people of the country the *Lava*, which is as hard as a flint. And when they meet with any thing that seems valuable, they pick it out, and leave the rest. But I am afraid, that after they have searched, they throw the earth in again; by which means many curiosities may be lost, not being understood by these labourers."

In his second *Letter*, Feb. 20. 1740. he tells him: "After having gone a good way under ground, I arrived at the place in which the paintings had been discovered, and where they are daily discovering more. The first mistake those men they call Intendants have committed, is, their having dug out the pictures, without drawing the situation of the place, that is, the niches where they stood: for they were all adorned with Grotesques, composed of most elegant masques, figures, and animals; which, not being copied, are gone to destruction, and the like will happen to the rest. Then, if they meet with any pieces of painting not so well preserved as the rest, they leave them where they found them. Besides, there are pillars of stucco extremely curious, consisting of many sides, all variously painted; of which they do not preserve the
" least

general ; and as these passages are quite * a labyrinth, there is no guessing whereabouts you are, after two or three turnings.

At the farther end of Portici, towards Torre del Greco, you descend by about 50 stone steps, which convey you over the wall of † a theatre lined with white marble ; which, if the earth and rubbish were cleared out of it, would, I believe, be found to be very entire. By what is seen of it, I do not imagine it to be much bigger than
one

“ least memory In a word, perceiving all those who are
“ called Superintendants of this affair, wholly ignorant of
“ what they are about, I began to suffer in a very sensible
“ manner ; so that every day appeared a month, ’till I
“ should deliver my Letter, and see what success it would
“ meet with. For had it succeeded, I should have gone im-
“ mediately, and drawn those things ; which, not being
“ taken care of, tho’ of great curiosity and erudition, will
“ soon be destroyed However, as I could do no-
“ thing more, and having a great concern for those fine
“ things in a perishing condition, I left them a paper of di-
“ rections how to manage. If they do not observe them,
“ the greater misfortune will be ours, to hear that what
“ time, earthquakes, and the ravages of the volcano have
“ spared, are now destroyed by those who pretend to have
“ the care of them, &c.” CAM. PAD.

“ We found many ways filled up ; which they had done
“ to save the trouble of carrying out the earth. I observed,
“ that they had not gone near the bottom of the ruins, for
“ fear, I suppose, of the springs ; for in some parts they
“ seem to be as low as the water in the well.” KNAP.

* “ We were forced to mark with chalk, when we came
“ to any turning, to prevent losing ourselves.” KNAP.

† I walked almost all over the Theatre, which must have
been a fine one, being all incrusted with marble ; but that
is taken away, as fast as the earth is removed. The stucco,
with which some of the walls are covered, is the most beau-
tifully coloured of any I ever saw. ANON.

one of our ordinary theatres in London. That it was a theatre, and not an * amphitheatre, appears, by a part of the scene, which is plainly distinguished. It is, I think, of stucco, adorned with compartments of grotesque work : of which, and grotesque paintings, there are a great many, scattered up and down in the several parts of the town.

When you have left the theatre, you enter into narrow passages, where, on one hand (for you seldom or never can distinguish objects on each hand at once) you have † walls lined, or crufted over, sometimes with marble, sometimes with stucco ; and you have sometimes walls of bare brick : but almost throughout, you see above and about you, pillars of marble or stucco, broken, or crushed, and lying in all sorts of directions. You sometimes see plainly ‖ the outfides of walls, that have apparently fallen inward ; sometimes the
insides

“ * The part where they are at work must have been a stupendous building ; and without doubt one may conjecture it to have been an amphitheatre, by the circumference of the walls, and the large steps which are still preserved. But it is impossible to see the symmetry of the whole, because one must travel through streight passages like our Catacombs in Rome.” CAM. PAD.

† “ One sees the buildings were of brick covered with marble ; for I found no other sort of stone there, but thin plates of marble of all sorts in great quantity.” KNAP.

‖ “ The walls are some tumbled slanting, others crossing them, and many are upright. One sees great quantities of marble, as bits of window-cases and other ornaments, sticking out on all parts.” KNAP.

insides of such as have apparently fallen outward ; and sometimes the insides of buildings which stand directly upright : many of which, I dare say, would be found to be entire, as several have in part already been found to be - - - - To make an end of the general description. You have all the way such a confusion of brick, and tiles, of mortar, and marble, in cornices, and frizes, and other ornaments and members of buildings ; together with stucco, beams, and rafters, and even what seems to have been the trees which stood in the town, and blocks and billets for fuel, and earth, and matter, which appears to have overwhelmed the whole place ; all so blended, crushed, and as it were mixed together, that it is far easier to conceive than to describe. The ruin in general is not to be expressed.

Having given this general account, I shall now run over the most remarkable particulars I saw, just as they occur to me, without pretending to order : for, as I have hinted already, it was impossible for me to know in what order they stood, in respect to each other.

I saw the inside of a rotund, which may have been a temple. It is crowned with a dome ; it may be about thirty feet in diameter : but I can't pretend to be exact as to measures ; for they will admit of none to be taken. - - - - Near it, I saw the
lower

lower part of a * Corinthian column, upon the loftiest proportioned brick pedestal I ever observed: and thereabouts some very solid brick buildings. - - - I soon after passed over what (by the length we saw of it) seemed to have been a very neat Mosaic pavement.

In proceeding a little farther, we perceived ourselves to be got into the inside of an house. The rooms appear to have been but small: they are lined with stucco, and painted with a ground of deep red, adorned with compartments, either of white, or a light yellow, and of some other colours, which our lights were not good enough to make us distinguish. In these compartments, were grotesque paintings of birds, beasts, masques, jestoons, &c.

Soon after, with some difficulty, and by creeping up through a very narrow hole of loose earth, we got into an upper apartment of another house. The floor was of stucco; and the earth and rubbish was cleared away, from under a great part of it. We ventured upon it, and found a room, lined, and adorned in the manner just now described,

* "There are no bases or capitals of large columns; two feet diameter is the most. Captain Emory brought away a small capital of a pilaster, which is very curious; it being much the same as was used by the Goths in Italy. This makes me think, that they revived the antient barbarous style, used before the introduction of the Greek, for the capital. This is certainly more antient than the time of the Goths in Italy. It was the only one of the kind we saw there." KNAP.

scribed; only it was rather richer: the cieling is painted in the same manner, in the same colour; and with the same ground of deep red, as the sides. This room might have been ten or eleven feet high: but the danger of our situation would not permit us to do otherwise, than to get out of it as soon as we could.

Shortly after, we were carried, by an easy ascent, into what seems to have been a principal room of some great house. At the end of it, there are three large buffets in the wall; all three most admirably painted, partly grotesque, and partly in perspective; representing * temples, houses, gardens, and the like; executed with the greatest freedom, judgement and variety; and very much enlivened with the lightest and most airy ornaments: and so is the whole room, as far as can be seen; not excepting the roof, which seems to have been a sloping one; and all the

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lines

" * In the ruins under-ground, I saw several Pieces that
 " were taking down; particularly one fifteen feet wide, and
 " eight high: it consists of the front of a large temple, with
 " buildings of the same Architecture projecting on each side,
 " in the nature of the wings of a house. There are two
 " houses also adjoining to this temple. with windows divided
 " into squares; which squares are painted of a greyish co-
 " lour. I will not pretend to say, this is to represent glass,
 " because I believe we have no authority for it in any Au-
 " thor of antiquity: but I tell you the fact as it is; and a-
 " mong the Virtuosi of your acquaintance you may find out
 " the meaning. I must observe to you, that in this Archi-
 " tecture the Perspective is very exact; which one may judge
 " of with a good deal of certainty in those wings which
 " project. The Architecture is very rich and noble." CRISPÈ.

lines of the compartments of the painting seem to lead to some ornament, that must have been in the centre of the top. I must not omit, that between the compartments there is continually a palm tree represented in so very grotesque a manner, that I think it is one of the most pleasing ornaments I ever saw. What may be the height, or length, or breadth of this room, one cannot form any probable conjecture: for by the buffets it appears, that there is a good depth to be dug out, to get at the floor; and they have not cleared away above five feet, I think, of that one end of it, of which I have been giving some account.

We afterwards passed through some ordinary rooms, belonging to the same house; and through the inside of some other houses, seeming of less note. ---- Of the insides in general I shall only say, they are commonly painted of a deep red; sometimes plain, and sometimes adorned with figures, &c. ---- It seemed to me twice or thrice, as we passed along, that we turned the corners of streets. Twice I passed by the fronts of houses, as I thought; and once particularly by the front, as it seemed, of some * very large publick edifice, with very broad fluted pilasters of stucco.

But

* “ There seem to be, in one place, the ruins of some
“ magnificent building, which they have dug round; for
“ there appear the bases in white marble of square and round
“ columns, which are all of a size: and, what is surprizing,
they

But nothing is more extraordinary relating to this place, than what is demonstratively evident to have been the catastrophe of it. --- That it was partly destroyed by the eruption of the mountain, can never be doubted; and in the following manner. First, it was set on fire by burning matter; and by the time it was in flames, it was overwhelmed, and the fire smothered. You will be convinced of this by what I am going to observe. I have taken notice, that there are every where * great quantities of beams, rafters, trees, &c. scattered up and down: all these are burnt to as fine and perfect a charcoal, as ever I saw. The very largest of the beams are burnt to the heart, tho' their form be perfectly preserved; inasmuch, that in all which I examined, I could perceive the very stroke of the ax, or other tool, with which

A a 2 they

" they have not examined whether they have any columns
" on them, which one stroke of the pick-ax would have
" done. I scraped away the earth at the side of the base of
" a pilaster, and found the wall covered with a very beauti-
" ful marble, but could not reach to discover what was on
" the top of it. There are but two columns that appear, one
" of red marble, and the other of brick covered with stucco,
" and fluted." KNAP.

* " It gives one a perfect idea of a city destroyed in that
" manner. For one there sees great quantities of timber in
" the form of beams and rafters, some lying one way, some
" another; some, as they broke in the fall, others intire:
" these are sticking in the sides of the ways, and are become
" a perfect charcoal; but those in moist places, and where
" the water ouses, you may run your hand into, and work
" like a paste, and they have more the colour of rotten
" wood." KNAP.

they were hewn, or shapen. That the town was burnt, is as plain, as that it was overwhelmed. ---- Now, if it had continued burning any time, all the beams, &c. would have been reduced to ashes, or at least have been quite defaced : whereas, by the fire's being suddenly smothered, they became perfect charcoal. This seems to have been the case of that part of it, which is as yet discovered.

That this destruction was effected by two such violent accidents, the one coming suddenly upon the back of the other, is much more natural, than to suppose, that it was burnt by the same matter which overwhelmed it. For, if that had been the case, I cannot conceive, how the paintings could have been preserved so fresh, or indeed at all : nor can it be conceived, that there should not appear some marks of burning upon the walls, marble, &c. but there is hitherto no such thing to be observed ; nor does there seem to be any sort of combustible substance mixed with the earth and rubbish. Both above and below, the whole appears to have been buried in * common earth, which could

* " But what is most curious, is to see these paintings all
 " covered with earth, which when taken off, they appear to
 " have suffered nothing by it. I believe this may be ac-
 " counted for, by there being no damp or moisture in the
 " place ; and that the dry earth has been rather preservative,
 " than hurtful to them. I have seen there a place, where
 " anciently they kept lime for building ; a great quantity of
 " which

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could not naturally have any share in burning the town. ---- So that it is highly probable, that it was overwhelmed by some extraordinary effects of an earthquake, which happened at the same time ; and not by burning matter thrown from the mountain. That it was fired by such matter, cannot well be doubted ; but that it was buried by the same, appears evidently not to have been the case. But in whatever manner the fate of this town was brought upon it, it seems to have been as dreadful a one, as could be inflicted in nature.

I shall trouble you only with one observation more, which is, that the inhabitants seem to have had some dreadful warning to forsake it : for in digging above a mile and half, computing the several turnings and windings, they have as yet found but one dead body.

LETTER XXX.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Nov. 20. 1742. N. S.*

IT is some time, since I promised to send you some few Remarks upon a Pamphlet in 12mo. intituled, *A short Account of a late Journey to Tuscany,*

“ which yet remains as fresh as if made but yesterday. CAM.

“ PAD —One sees nothing but pure earth mixed with these

“ ruins ; whereas the surface of all that part of the country,

“ quite to the sea, is covered with the cinders of Vesuvius.”

KNAP.

cany, Rome, and other parts of Italy. London, printed in the year MDCCXLI. &c. Price one shilling : which, upon second reading, raised in me more pity and contempt, than resentment and displeasure. Infomuch, that had I not given my word to say something of it ; instead of taking the trouble of reading it through a third time, and transcribing any part of it ; I should onely have read it leaf by leaf, as occasion required ; and having used it in the properest manner, should have joined it to the properest company, in order to its final Exit, through the Cloaca Maxima, into the Tiber.

I shall give these Gentlemen no interruption in their journey through Tuscany, but shall enter with them “ the Campagna di Roma, otherwise “ called *The Bad Plain of Rome :*” where, they say, “ the air is so infectious, than in those years “ when they open the ground, numbers of people die with the infection even at Rome ; and “ many of those that reap the corn drop down “ dead while they are at work. In the spring “ they just open the surface of the ground to “ throw in the seed ; and in the harvest they on- “ ly cut off the ears, not daring to stoop near the “ ground.” p. 17. 18. Every one, who has travelled through this Plain, and is toiling through this Pamphlet, must needs be much surprized at this false and ridiculous account, ’till they get to
the

the next page ; and then their wonder will wear off : for there these Brethren inform us, “ that
“ being strangers to that air, they found them-
“ selves a little *out of order*, and as it were *in a*
“ *maze*.” p. 19.

They say, p. 24. “ The Nobility and principal Clergy have most of their seats and retiring
“ places at Tivoli, Ronciglione, and other towns
“ among the mountains beyond the *Bad Plain*,
“ to which they retire during the hot season.”
The ancient Romans, indeed, used to do so ; but the moderns act quite contrary, and return from Tivoli, Frascati, &c. to Rome, before the Dog-days begin. The reason is, because it is reckoned dangerous for one who has resided constantly at Rome for a considerable time, to change his lodgings and lye in the Campania, during the months of July and August, tho’ he may do so safely enough in the winter.

P. 21. “ We went about two miles before we
“ came to the city gates, between two very high
“ walls and other ancient buildings.” These *very high walls* are so low, that if there had been any *ancient buildings*, they must have been easily seen : but there is really not one such *building*, all the way, either on the right hand, or on the left ; unless two or three old ruinous inns are to be dignified with the venerable name of *ancient buildings*. --- But, in walking at their leisure afterwards,

wards, they very curiously “ observed these walls
 “ had belonged to gardens, and had many open
 “ niches, from whence the possessors of them
 “ were wont to view the passengers, who no
 “ doubt were very numerous in the time of the
 “ Old Romans, and even before and sometime
 “ after the Reformation.” p. 22.

Tho’ the latter part of this wise *Observation*, so very oddly expressed, if strictly examined, would plainly appear to be nonsense ; I shall however take it in the sense originally intended, which, as I apprehend, must certainly be this. That *the passengers were very numerous in the time of the Old Romans*, either under the republic, or the empire, and even down so low as not long before and sometime after the Reformation. Thus these Young Painters, in walking thro’ those avenues, by dint of a strong imagination, drew in their own minds a very extraordinary picture, viz. of *Old Roman gentlemen and ladies, in their gardens*, by way of diversion, peeping at the crowd of *passengers through the open niches of walls*, many hundreds of years before they were erected. For it is certain, that these walls are in a modern taste, having been built not above fifty or sixty years. Had these gentlemen, instead of the *very small English Bible in two volumes*, which they take particular care to inform us, p. 23. they kept in their pockets all the time they were abroad, taken the

two volumes of *Roma Antiqua et Moderna* for their companions on this occasion, they could not possibly have stumbled on so ridiculous an anachronism, in the very beginning of their walks.

They say, p. 25. 26. "Of the fourteen stupendous Aqueducts, with which Rome was formerly supplied with water, we observed only three remaining, and these broken in many places, which have been repaired in some parts, and in others supplied with leaden pipes. They are continued rows of vast arches about sixty foot high, over which runs a channel of water like a small river, conveyed from the lakes and fountains at the foot of the Apennines, for the space of thirty or thirty five miles." But this *Observation* does not agree very exactly with the account given in the *Preface*, p. 3. "The Country round about Rome, which was once the garden of the Universe, lyes now almost entirely uncultivated, the air being infected by the decay of those stupendous Aquæducts, by which the streams of the Alps were conveyed to Rome: five of those out of seven are now in ruin." In the former account, they make fourteen *Aqueducts*, and only three remaining; in the latter, no more than seven, and but two remaining. According to the one, the water was conveyed only from the foot of the Apennines: but according to the other, the streams

of the Alps themselves were conveyed to Rome. Modern Rome, it is true, is supplied with water by only *three of the fourteen ancient aqueducts*; of which those that were extended to the greatest length, were the *Aqua Claudia* and the *Anienes novus*; the former bringing the water thirty eight miles, and the latter forty two. What authority, then, excepting that of travellers, had these pious Brethren, with their *small English Bible in their pockets*, to endeavour to make us believe, that the Old Romans conducted even to Rome the streams of the Alps; which are above two hundred miles beyond the farthest extent of the longest of their aqueducts?

After many obscure incoherent Remarks, for six or seven pages together, upon the buildings of Rome, where *the fronts of almost all the Churches*, they say, p. 29. *appear dry and inspid, and soon tire a curious and intelligent spectator*; they have the presumption to criticize upon a pillar, which is justly esteemed one of the most beautiful in the world, and stands before the church of S. Maria Maggiore, with the figure of the Virgin MARY on the top of it. This figure, they say, p. 34. “ is the image of the woman “ mentioned in the *Revelations, clothed with the “ sun*, which they [the Italians, erroneously it “ seems,] have thought fit to style the Virgin “ MARY. This column, they observe, is larger “ above

“ above than below, the Architect having had a
 “ notion that it would work the right effect ; but
 “ herein he was much mistaken, not considering
 “ that when one removes to some distance, by
 “ the diminishing of the object, the upper part
 “ comes almost as near the eye as the lower, and
 “ the perfect form of the object, is plainly
 “ seen.” But how *curious* soever these *Spectators*
 might be, it is certain they were not very *intelli-*
gent. Otherwise they would have known, that
 this pillar was not, as they wildly imagine, ori-
 ginally designed for the area, in which it stands;
 but * was taken from the ancient temple of Peace
 built by VESPASIAN, of which there are three vast
 arches still remaining in the Campo Vaccino. In
 the nave of which temple it formerly stood,
 where it could be viewed only at a small distance
 from the pedestal ; and consequently, to make it
 seem proportionable to the eye, it was requisite
 that it should be thicker towards the top than at
 the bottom. Hence it is evident, that the *notion*
 which the Architect had was right ; and that our
 critics, *not* sufficiently *considering* the matter, were
herein much mistaken.

“ One day, say they, p. 41. while we were
 “ † drawing a view of the city, two Gentlemen

B b 2

“ observing

* See page. 84.

† The way of *drawing* practised by one of these Artists
 was very extraordinary, and I suppose invented by himself.
 He

“ observing the fine prospect, said, *Ab! they*
“ *may draw it, for it makes as beautiful a Design*
“ *as ever* ; making a kind of lamentation over
“ it, as if it were nothing now in comparison of
“ what it had been formerly.” If it *were nothing*
now like what it *had been formerly*, how could it
possibly *make as beautiful a Design as ever*? Or
how could these *two Gentlemen* affirm this, upon
observing the fine prospect, and at the same time,
make such a *kind of lamentation*? And how
could these Two Brothers give this lamentable ac-
count of the prospect, when, in the very page be-
fore, they had said, “ Rome makes a very grand
“ and magnificent appearance, because of the
“ great number of churches and palaces, which
“ are of an exorbitant height, and the many lofty
“ domes, the several ascents and descents of hills,
“ with the intermixture of gardens, adorned with
“ cypress and pine-trees, which affords beautiful
“ views or prospects in almost all parts of the
“ city?” And it is certain, that in this respect
the prospect is much improved of late years, there
having been many sumptuous buildings raised,
and

He first spread his paper upon the ground, and then turning
his back-side towards the object to be drawn, he stood bolt-
upright, and looking every now and then over each shoulder,
scratched down his design with a *tocca lapis*, on which ac-
count his pencil was as long as himself: and therefore, if
any man is to be esteemed courageous according to the length
of his sword; this ingenious person has certainly a right to
the title of a great Designer.

and several are now raising: particularly a most magnificent fountain, called Fontana di Treva; a new and grand facade making to the church of S. Maria Maggiore; and many palaces, convents, &c. building. From hence it is highly probable, that our authors did not understand what these *Two Gentlemen* said, who I suppose spoke in Italian; of which language, as I shall shew by and by, they seem to have very little knowledge.

But it will perhaps be answered, that the *lamentation*, which was made, was not on the account of the decay in the buildings, &c. on which, even according to their own words, the *prospect* chiefly depends, but on the account of their being *thin of inhabitants*, &c. as they mention afterwards. If this was their meaning, it is certain, that they knew not how to express it: for the words are, “Two Gentlemen, observing the *fine Prospect*, said, they may draw it, for it makes..... lamentation over it, as if it were nothing now, in comparison of what it had been formerly.” These five *its* can refer to nothing but the City, which made the *fine Prospect*. From whence it is evident, that they do not understand their own native tongue much better than Italian.

But taking it, as perhaps they meant it, and as it soon follows in the same page, “That several persons we conversed with afterwards
“ were

“ were complaining, that Rome was very much
 “ gone to decay within these 14 or 15 years past;
 “ as indeed may plainly be seen, even by strangers
 “ who reside but a little while among them. And
 “ setting aside the Clergy and Nobility, the rest
 “ are for the most part miserably poor.” Now
 by me, who have resided among them almost
 these three years, this has not been *seen plainly*,
 nor even at all: for I could never perceive this
miserable poverty among the people. For tho’
 the government be absolute, and the *Nobility and*
Clergy, out of policy, keep the people under as
absolute dependance on them as they can; yet you
 never hear of any such exorbitant and unreasona-
 ble taxes, as you have in other countries, where
 you pretend to so much liberty and property.

P. 42. speaking of the *Paper Bills and Notes*
 at Rome, they say, “ the smallest of which is
 “ five Crowns.” But how does this agree with
 what is asserted in the *Preface*, p. 3. “ To change
 “ a Pistole in a shop, you must buy half the va-
 “ lue in goods, and take the rest in several Bank
 “ notes, each of the value of Half a crown ster-
 “ ling?” Silver money is certainly very scarce;
 and therefore there is no occasion to make it
 scarcer by falsehoods and contradictions.

If the Romans, as they tell us p. 43. *make a*
great noise about their Hospitals, I assure you,
 they have reason. And setting aside the great
 number

number of public *Hospitals*, they are generally very charitable to all objects that present themselves. ---- I wish these Gentlemen, who depreciate this kind of charity, had shewed a little more of another sort. Not content with putting the worst construction upon every thing said or done here, they have related several things intirely false: as particularly p. 45. " Formerly
 " the Popes used for a chastisement of the Jews,
 " once a year to bring forth the oldest Woman
 " among them into a publick market-place,
 " where they caused her to be sawed in two: but
 " since the Reformation in the Protestant countries has opened people's eyes, and rendered
 " such barbarities odious, the Pope has compounded the matter for a large sum of money,
 " and giving [given] a fictitious Woman stuffed
 " ed with figs and wine, to be sawed in two as
 " the other, and worried in pieces by the populace. This was done while we were there."
 They speak with as much assurance, as if they had seen it, tho' they do not say they had. I was there at the same time with them, and never heard the least syllable either of the old barbarous story, or of the modern ridiculous practice. If I had, I should have certainly gone to the *public market-place* to see so great a curiosity, as a *fictitious old woman stuffed with figs and wine*, first *sawed in two*, and then *worried in pieces*, by these
 sad

bad dogs *the populace*. When one meets with a page *stuffed* with such a story as this, barely to repeat it, shews it to be as *fictitious* as this *old woman*, and fit only to be credited by a real one.

They affirm p. 46. that the “Clergy are three
“to one of the Laity, and that their dresses are
“so various, that the whole place looks like a
“continual masquerade.” In this Observation, somewhat of archness seems to be aimed at: but the preceding assertion is so extravagantly false, that, for want of a proper *dress*, it is not even a lie *in masquerade*: as will plainly appear from what follows. ---P. 48. “The Nunneries [meaning Nuns] here are not quite so mean as at
“Florence, but are kept very close and retired;
“and such numbers are shut up in these and the
“Hospitals, that one sees but few women in the
“streets in comparison of the men, of whom
“those Monks, Friars, Priests, and Abbati, are
“far the greater number.” How true this is, may be judged from the account published yearly, by which it appears, that out of 64,745 females, but 1950 are Nuns, which is not a thirty third part; and that the number of males is 81,265, of whom 64 are Bishops, 2854 Priests, and 3727 Frati or Monks, making in all 6645, which is not a twelfth part: tho’ these gentlemen made just now *three* clergy-men to *one* lay-man.

But

But they improve in their natural strain, in this, and the following page. “ There are three
 “ colleges for the English, Scots, and Irish
 “ The scholars are taken in young, and after they
 “ have passed thro’ the ordinary studies, are sent
 “ to the Jesuits college ; from whence, such as
 “ are qualified for missionaries, are sent over to
 “ Britain and Ireland. We were told, that Rome
 “ has always about 2000 missionaries among
 “ us.” And believed it ; which they could not
 have done, but by a credulity, which would induce them to believe any thing that tended to promote the out-cry against Popery. For the compleat number of the English college is but thirty, of which at present there are only twenty ; that of the Scotch, no more than nine, of which even three are now wanting : and none but that of the Irish is full, who have always kept up their number, which is likewise but nine. So that out of these three colleges, which, if full, as they scarce ever are, have but 48 scholars, comes a constant supply of 2000 missionaries, who reside *always* among us, to propagate the Catholic Faith. They who can believe this, do not reject transubstantiation because it is impossible ; but because it is a Popish doctrine.

Tho’ it be too true, that churches here are sanctuaries for murderers, &c. p. 59. it is not true, that “ Many are the murders that are com-

“ mitted in the streets of Rome, because, except
“ in the time of Carnivals and high festivals, no
“ light is to be seen all over the city after dusk ;
“ and they who have occasion to go abroad at
“ that time, run the hazard of being assassinated.”

For it is known to all, who reside here any time, that no city in Europe is better guarded, and freer from robberies than this : so that one may walk all night through the streets, without the least molestation. Indeed, if you happen to have a quarrel with any one, then there is some danger of being assassinated : for the Romans are so revengeful as seldom to forgive, and will seek all ways to dispatch you. But if you take care not to give any just cause of offence, you may live here, with as much security, as in any other city in the world.

Having hitherto taken notice of some of the chief blunders and falsehoods, selected out of a great many, within the compass of those few pages, which contain their account of Rome ; I may justly suppose, that there are as many proportionably in their account of Florence ; of which I shall therefore mention only one instance. At p. 65. 66. they tell us they were “ present at
“ the execution of a man at Florence for murdering his wife. As soon as he was taken
“ down, they opened his veins, received his
“ blood into several vessels, and distributed it in
“ large

“ large glassfuls, to such as were afraid of apoplectick fits, &c. Afterwards his body was divided into four quarters, and nailed to the gallows; to which several beggars resorted, and took their stands every day, begging alms for the sake of this malefactor, whom, from all the strange apparatus that had been made about his execution, they imagined to be a Saint.” That these *beggars begged alms for the sake of this malefactor*, I shall not deny; but then it must be *for his sake*, as these alms were contributions towards prayers for the deliverance of his soul out of purgatory;” which I mentioned to be usual on a like occasion, in * one of my Letters to the Doctor. Could they possibly, in *begging alms* for themselves, in order to move people’s compassion, importune them *for the sake of a Saint*, who had been just executed *for murdering his wife*? If they *imagined* him to be a *Saint*, they certainly went farther than these gentlemen tell us; and offered up their prayers to him, and payed a particular respect to his reliques, that were *nailed to the gallows*.--- But how could such an *imagination* come into their heads? Why, *from all the strange apparatus that had been made about his execution*: part of which *strange apparatus* was, that “ Two of the Fraternity of the *Misericordia*, when he was
“ in

* LETTER XVI. page 61.

“ in the agonies of death, climbed up upon the
“ gallows, holding up the picture of the *Ma-*
“ *donna* or *Virgin MARY* with a crucifix, and
“ bawling aloud in his ears.” If they could
look upon this, or any other circumstance here
particularized, as an intimation of his faintship,
tho’ every one seems to be a strong indication of
finner-ship; they might as reasonably *imagine* all
murderers in general, that are conducted decent-
ly to the gallows, to be *Saints*. But these *beg-*
gars were I suppose, some of those “ Country
“ people that came from the mountains about
“ Rome, whom they often used to hear swearing
“ by the body of the great god *BACCHUS*, and
“ by the rest of the Heathen gods,” p. 62. and
thus their *Saints* and their *Gods* were very pro-
perly suted to one another.

I pass now to the short *POSTSCRIPT*, consisting
only of two pages; for the sake of publishing
which, it is very probable, all the preceding
eighty four were printed. Which puts me in
mind of a sight, which now and then formerly
diverted me in London, when I was a boy; a
little cart, loaded with sand or filth, and dragged
along by a string of four or five lean asses; with
two little, dirty carters, leading and driving
them on.

“ As

“ As we were viewing the masquerade, which
 “ passed along the Corso, we observed a crowd
 “ of people gazing up at a balcony : upon en-
 “ quiring into the meaning of it, one of the spec-
 “ tators, pointing to the balcony, said, Don’t
 “ you see *the King* ! upon asking *What King* ?
 “ he seemed to be in great surprize, calling out
 “ to the company ; *Questi due non conosci il Re*
 “ *di Inghiltera ! These Two don’t know the King*
 “ *of England* ! Then they began to harangue in
 “ his praise, and told us that he was *Il santissimo*
 “ *Viro ! A most holy Man* ! and was kept out of
 “ his dominions by the Heretics. He seemed to
 “ have a meagre melancholy aspect, was dressed
 “ in a French grey suit, with a long wig, and
 “ his hat slouched over his face ; a young cour-
 “ tezan, about seventeen or eighteen years of
 “ age, was very familiar with him, toying and
 “ playing, and every now and then clasping her
 “ arms round his waste.” That kings, either
 merely titular, or real, or even cardinals should
 have their whores, is not impossible, nor perhaps
 improbable : but that they should choose to con-
 verse with them *in a balcony*, in the sight of a
 crowd of people, is not quite so likely. And
 that the people, upon seeing a whore *toying and*
playing with such a person, *and every now and*
then clasping her arms round his waste, should at
 that instant, in admiration of his sanctity, crie
 out

out *A most holy Man!* has still less probability. --- But how did our Two sanctified Brethren know, that this young girl of *seventeen or eighteen* was a *Courtezan*? Might she not be some young lady of quality; or a niece of one of the *Two Cardinals*? Was it by their own knowledge, that they became acquainted with her trade; or by the information of the spectators; who, *beginning to harangue in his praise*, among other things said, *There is a most holy man, with a whore*? ---- But whatever these people said, it is certain, that our Two Travelers only guessed at their meaning. For tho' they give themselves airs, as if they understood Italian very well, by having discovered the *nonsense of a Sermon in praise of a Saint* p. 53. yet it is evident, from the two short sentences pretended to be spoken on this occasion, which are the onely two they have ventured at throughout their whole book, that they are extremely ignorant of that language; having represented this *crowd of people* as speaking such Italian, as no Roman ever spoke. *Questi due non conosci il Re di Inglitera*; instead of *conoscono il Re d'Inghilterra*: and *Il santissimo Viro*, for *Un Huómo santissimo*.

And this naturally carries me back to the *Preface*, where these two sentences are put into the mouths of *Five hundred people*; when it is morally certain, that not one of them did speak in such
a dialect.

a dialect. In this *Preface*, the sole *reason* assigned for publishing “ this Account after so many other
 “ relations, is the manner in which it is written.
 “ The Authors, it is said, are two young persons,
 “ who went to Italy to improve themselves in
 “ painting; and they have represented every
 “ thing in so lively a manner, that you will ima-
 “ gine you see so many pictures: the entrance
 “ into the *Campagna di Roma* from *Tuscany* is a
 “ perfect landskip, &c.” If these Travelers wrote
 this *Preface* themselves; they have given a much
livelier picture of their own conceitedness, than
 of the countrey. If it was written by Mr. A. B.
 at whose *desire* they say p. 1. they “ have drawn
 “ out this short Review of what occur’d in their
 “ Travels,” it is a strange instance of the blind-
 ness of prejudice, in recommending a most il-
 literate and false representation both of persons
 and things. But be it written by whom it will,
 it proceeds in the stile of one that carries a raree-
 show at his back: *Here you will behold*, and by
 and by *you will see*. But what are the fine sights
 we shall *behold* and *see*? Why these two: *A thou-*
sand horses, mules, and asses sprinkled with Holy
Water, &c. and *A titular Monarch, a Lady of*
pleasure, &c. the description of both which sights
 take up onely five pages at the latter end of the
 book. As these are pointed out as the chief things
 worthy observation, one may justly conclude, that
 these,

these, particularly one of them, were the chief occasion of publishing the book. And if this was the case, Mr. A. B. must surely have had a head as oddly turned, as those of his Two Authors, to imagine, that a *Courtezana*, or *Lady of pleasure*, could be permitted to appear in such company, in so public a place. But if he, Sir, as you tell me you have been well informed, not only recommended this *Short Account* to the world, but was likewise at the expence of printing it; it may be justly suspected, that he was then, or would be soon,* properly qualified for the college in Moorfields; where onely such a *lively manner of representing every thing* can be admired, and so false a one, believed.

Tho' I fear, Sir, I have tired your patience, by my prolixity, yet I am in hopes you will readily excuse it; since it proceeded from an earnest desire of giving you the fuller satisfaction, in the performance of a promise, long since made by,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R XXXI.

To Mr. W. R.

DEAR W.

Rome, Jan. 3. 1743. N. S.

AS my Father insisted upon an immediate Answer to his Latin Letter, I thought myself

* This soon afterwards proved actually to be the case.

self obliged at any rate to obey his commands ; tho' the fear of being too late for the Post gives me no time to examine nicely, in order to discover the several errors in the lines above-written. If he should wonder, how I could find time to fill up the much larger part of this paper with English ; I answer, that I find nonsense much more fluent in my mother tongue : and I know I can make more free with you, who have had many a lug by the ear, as well as my-self, for making false concords ; for which reason, I don't doubt that you will cast a favourable eye upon the following unconnected occurrences, scribbled down, just as each of them came uppermost.

The last gentleman you sent us hither is turned out a fine spark. He pretended to be a Protestant, and as such was received into our acquaintance and familiarity, and went to prayers with us : but, as unluckily for him, as luckily for us, he happened to drop a paper, which contained his most secret sins. For you must know, that he was really a Papist ; and had so long omitted going to confession, that the priests refused to give him absolution, unless he would write down, to the best of his remembrance, all the sins he had committed. You may easily imagine, what a long black scroll the paper that fell into our hands contained. Upon which, we accused him of his unfair dealing ; but he stoutly denied the charge, and dis-

owned his religion. However, he soon after secretly conveyed away his trunks, &c. and is gone the Lord knows whither : some say, a pilgrimage to Loretto, by way of penance for his sins ; others, that he is retired into a convent, to be initiated into the blessed mysteries of Monkism.

About a month since, a woman was hanged for murdering her son. Not one of her sex having been executed in a public manner, for above three-score years ; curiosity brought a prodigious concourse of females together. The poor hangman, whether out of fear of the Roman Amazons, or touched with an unseasonable tenderness, performed his office in so bungling a manner, that he was sent to the galleys, for not understanding his trade.

Here has been, for this month past, the most extraordinary weather I ever saw in my life, it having rained almost incessantly. So that we may say, as truly and literally, as HORACE did formerly,

Vidimus flavum Tiberim, retortis

Littore Etrusco violenter undis :

and, I believe, to as great a degree ; overflowing its banks in a prodigious manner, and carrying all before it. It was a very surprizing and dismal sight, to see a vast flood come pouring down with the greatest rapidity ; and bringing along with it flocks of sheep, and the poor shepherds who attended them.

We

We have had a strange mad fellow amongst us, one GEORGE HUTCHINSON, a weaver, or taylor by trade, who lately came from Ireland, by God's command, as he says, to convert the Pope. Tho' a Presbyterian by profession, he went constantly to the Protestant chapel here: but all the arguments that were used could not convince him of the vanity of his undertaking; and persuade him to return to his family, which he has left starving at home. He asserted, that the Pope was the *Whore of Babylon*; and that her worshipers, if they did not repent, would be destroyed within a year. He preached mightily against statues, pictures, umbrellas, bag-wigs, and hoop-petticoats: so that I came under his censure; and he advised me very earnestly, not to follow a business that promoted idolatry. Which, for my comfort, he assured me, I should not long do: for he prophesied, that I should be converted at last, and be rendered a faithful servant of the Lord, by being made Clerk (I wish he had said Chaplain.) to Mr. who is to be a Bishop in the city of Jerusalem. This prophet, having made a great disturbance at S. Peter's, when his Holyness came to give the benediction, has been seized, by his order, and sent out of sight.

This brings to my mind the case of my poor friend JOHNNY; whom, as I was lately informed, an evil Spirit, or *dark Angel*, has clapped up close

prisoner in an enchanted castle : I am really sorry for his misfortune, and hope he will soon regain his liberty. His case affects me the more sensibly, as I am a little apprehensive, that e'er long it may be my own. For I have reason to suspect, that a malignant Spirit, belonging to the same legion under MAMMON, has possessed my landlord ; who is of late become a perfect infidel, and seems to have no Christian virtues left, no faith, no meekness, no patience, no forbearance, &c. Had this Spirit made him dumb, as well as deaf, I should have been less persecuted : but he is continually demanding an answer, and yet will hear none. I hope some good Genius will hasten the proper form of words from England to Signor BELLONI ; who has more power than all the priests in Rome to exorcise such a Spirit as this.

I have fifty things more to say ; but in my hurry I can't think of one.----Bless me ! what have I done ? In hunting a flea, of which there is great plenty here, I have rent my shirt.----However, this puts me in mind of one thing, which I ought not to have forgotten, and that is, my duty to my Mother : therefore be sure to present it, and tell her, that my shirts have so many entrances big enough for my head, that it is with no small difficulty, that I can find the right way into them. And if my Father, to whom likewise give my duty, should observe, as very probably

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bably he may, That I can not have so much occasion for new shirts, since I am so likely soon to put on a stone doublet; intreat her for once to mind less what my Father says, than this complaint of their most obedient son, and

Dear W.

Your most affectionate brother, &c.

LETTER XXXII.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, June 20. 1743. N. S.*

I HERE send you an account of the statues, busts, bas reliefs, and some other ancient curiosities, which have been found in the subterraneous city *Herculaneum*; which I have seen twice my-self, and concerning which I have frequently discoursed with gentlemen, and by their observations have rectified and improved my own.

About four miles from Naples, on the sea-shore, lies the town of Portici; which seems as if it would in time become a part of that city; the example of the king, who is building a * palace

* One of the Neapolitan nobility had a house at this place, for which his Sicilian majesty promised him an equivalent. It is commonly reported, that this nobleman was drinking his chocolate, when a person came to let him know, that the king liked his house: upon which, he stretched out his hand in great surprize, and could never contract his fingers

lace here, drawing many to follow it. The situation is most delightful: the city and the bay of Naples, with the winding shore, afford a most various and pleasing view, on the one side; as does the coast, as far as the promontory of Surrento, and the island of Capri, on the other; and behind, at two miles distance, in a most surprising manner rises mount Vesuvius. The gardens are designed to be in the French taste, and to extend to the sea; but are not yet begun, they being at present at work only upon the palace. Under a grand portico in the middle, there is to be erected an equestrian statue of marble, lately found in near four hundred pieces; but, being very curiously joined together by the care of the restorer, will be a very great ornament to the building. The inscription on the pedestal runs thus:

MARCO·NONIO·M·F·
BALBO·PR·PRO·COS·
HERCVLANENSES.

Just by the bottom of the stair-case, on the left hand, stands a marble statue of VITELLIUS, in a military dress, and considerably bigger than the life. The apartments are not very grand, but neat. The floor of the king's chapel in his own apartment,

fingers again. The Neapolitans are said to have such strong passions, that it is not uncommon for them to die suddenly, upon hearing very bad news. S.

apartment, is a piece of Mosaic, found in the city; which has no colours but black and white: at one end there is a cup, supported by two monsters like sea-horses; under the door is another, supported by two animals like flying griffins, with horns on their heads.--- In one of the apartments, on the tables are two busts of bronze, one with a kind of helmet or cap on its head; and opposite are two marble busts of very young persons.---- In the next room, are four small statues of marble, about two foot and a half high: representing SILENUS, as I think, with a kind of cap, something like the Phrygian, on his head; VENUS, resembling that of Medici; APOLLO; and a Female Figure, of which the workmanship, and particularly the drapery, are excellent. In this room stand two antique bronze candlesticks or lamps; one for three lights, and one for four.---- In the apartment above, are three tables of a very particular kind of marble, found in the Abruzzo.---- The morning we were there, two small statues were brought; one of which seemed to be a VENUS, and the other I did not know. Among the rest was * a piece of Mosaic, exactly in the shape of a modern buffet: the work was not very extraordinary; but the cornish seemed remarkable,

* There is part of a fountain, buffet-fashion, in bad Mosaic; and two squares, with a river deity in each; the tails of a sea or olive green. S.

remarkable, being all formed of the shells of the murex.

Opposite to the stair-case is a room, in which * the statues, and several other ancient curiosities are kept, 'till a gallery is built for their reception. --- On the left as you enter, there are seven statues of brass considerably larger than the life.

I. An Emperor, in all probability ; naked, with a long wand in his hand.

II. In the habit of a Consul.

III. In a sacrificing habit.

IV. A Woman, probably a Priestess.

V. Resembling CICERO.

VI. A Woman, in the same habit with the IV.

VII. A Man like the I. but smaller. †

Some of these figures have the eyes yet remaining, which are not metal, but a composition representing the natural colour of the eye.

. In

* " They have dug up a good many statues ; but not above one or two that are tolerably good," CRISPE. —
 " I saw five, which they have put up in the market-place
 " [of Portici,] all cloathed figures, and in a Consular habit ;
 " the others women : they are all well drest, and in a fine
 " taste, but want the heads. In the Duke di Belbofi's [D'El-
 " boeuf's] villa, which is near, and by the sea-side, are two
 " others intire, both women ; one seems to be a LIVIA :
 " also the fragments of a naked figure, which wants the
 " head and arms, of a good style. These, with some ornaments and fragments of various sorts of marbles, are all
 " that is to be seen there, of what has been dug up." KNAP.

† One of these statues is supposed to be CLAUDIUS DRUSUS ; and another has a spear in one hand, and in the other a dagger shaped like a burning flame.

In the same room are ten statues of marble ; two of which are JUPITERS, considerably bigger than the life, but each wanting the head. The rest are Roman ladies, &c. There are besides, two basso relievos in profile ; one of ALEXANDER the great, the other of his mother OLYMPIAS.

In the little room beyond, are nine * busts; found together in the theatre of Herculaneum; the two best of which are a JUPITER AMMON, with goat's ears, and large ram's horns.

In the theatre belonging to the palace, are six Consular statues.†

In another apartment, there are two brass heads ; and a bas relief, representing a scene in some comedy, the actors all in masks.

E e

In

* " There is a perfect bust of AGRIPPINA, mother of
" NERO; which was found standing in its niche : it is as clean
" as if just finished, has not the least damage ; and is, in the
" judgment of every body, as well as myself, equal to most
" things of that kind in the world: for my own part, I
" should not stick to say, it is altogether as fine a portrait as
" the CARACALLA of the Farnese " CRISPE

† Besides these statues, there are several smaller : one of
HERCULES with a *mitra*; or coif, upon his head, having eyes
like glass ; a pretty one of a lady, with a *mitra* just like
the other. Little *Termini*, as wide at bottom as at top : one
with a woman's head above, and feet below ; another, with
a good PAN's head, and virile parts in bronze on the marble.
There were several inscriptions; and two catalogues of
names, which we had not time to consider : one of the finest
and plainest inscriptions was,

DOMITIAE CN. F.
DOMITIANI CAESARIS
D. D.

In the next room, the same where the pictures are, there is a small figure on horse-back, with a spear in his right hand, in bronze. There is likewise a sacrifice in small basso rilievo: the priest making the libation at the altar; a person sitting before the altar, with a veil on; behind whom stands a female figure, with two torches, the light downwards.

* The sculptor, who has the care of restoring the statues, says, they have found in the theatre many fragments of † equestrian statues in brass, the horses of which he conjectures to have been as big as that of MARCUS AURELIUS in the Capitol: one of them was a CALIGULA, and of excellent workmanship. §

They have likewise found letters in bronze, belonging to Inscriptions, a great number of different sorts of || household utensils; ‡ some glass

* "Our old friend Signor GIOSEPPE COVART, sculptor the king." CAM. PAD.

† "There are two equestrian statues in bronze broken all to pieces." CRISPE—"A chariot and horses of brass, broken all to pieces." CAM. PAD.—"A triumphal car of bronze." CRISPE.

§ The day I was there, they had discovered two of the prettiest figures in stucco, that can be imagined: one was a BACCHUS, the other a Faun; in compartments, in the manner of the ancient cieling. T.

|| "A large brazen dish, said to be found in a temple."

"CAM. PAD.—"A silver spoon, made in the handle like a modern one; the bowl is pointed like an olive-leaf; several kitchen utensils, mouse-traps, vessels full of rice, &c."

CRISPE.

‡ "A bracelet of gold." CAM. PAD.—"Several antique rings,

phials, shaped exactly like the modern, in one of which the cork and liquor is yet remaining; a small quantity of wheat and * a loaf of bread, both which had suffered by the fire; nor could the latter have been known, except by one of the paintings, in which is represented a loaf exactly of the same form.

I should now, Sir, proceed to the antique paintings: but since mere catalogues and descriptions of statues or pictures, unless accompanied with figures, tho' instructive, are not very entertaining; and since my account of the pictures will necessarily be longer than this which has been given of the statues; I think it more proper to

E c 2 be

"rings, with Cameos and Intaglias set in them." CRISPE.
 "—Eight rings, with their Cornelians engraved." CAM.
 "PAD.—A case of surgeons instruments." CRISPE.

* Very strange and false accounts have been published in our News-papers concerning the curiosities in this subterraneous city. In the *London Courant*, Aug. 10. 1747. there appeared part of two Letters, one pretended to have been written by a Knight of Malta, dated *June 24. 1747.* and the other from the Abbé d'Orval. The former says, "This city is entire, the houses have been found perfectly furnished, and the furniture well preserved. I have seen every thing prepared for dinner at the time the eruption happened, as bread, meal, wine, &c. *all very fresh.* . . . The paintings in fresco are extremely well preserved, but with this singularity, that they have *only two colours.*" The latter, writing in the same month, says, "This city was discovered two or three years ago by order of the king of Naples. . . I contented my self with taking some corn and some bread of those times, which remains *perfectly found* in the houses."

be reserved for the subject of another Letter,
which you may expect in a little time from,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

LETTER XXXIII.

To Miss C. R.

DEAR C.

Rome, July 20. 1743. N. S.

I FIND by the favour of yours, which Mr. H. brought me, that your former silence proceeded from observing a punctilio as to writing. I am sorry, that the fault was on my side; and take this method to give you some assurance, that I shall avoid the like for the future. This you will the more readily believe, when you have read this Letter; which, consisting onely of rambling accounts of what I have lately seen or heard, put down in haste, will appear calculated, rather to draw a speedy Answer from you, than to afford you a very agreeable entertainment.

I went the other day to the top of S. PETER's church, which is much larger and higher than S. Paul's. I passed through the neck of the pinnacle into the brazen ball, which will hold about twenty four persons. There is a crack quite through the main cupola, occasioned by making a stair-case
in

in one of the buttresses that support it: this crack, being very much enlarged of late, may prove of bad consequence, if some speedy remedy be not applied.

In the library at the Vatican I saw the *Asbestos*, in which they used to wrap up the body that was to be burned, in order to preserve the bones and ashes unmixed with the combustibles: it is woven like a net, and some say, composed of the filings of a particular sort of stone; tho' others will have it to be a vegetable. Whatever it is, it resists the fire: and to trie it, we rubbed one part with some wax-candle, and set it on fire; and it continued burning ten minutes, without being in the least consumed; and then returned to its white, natural colour.

A young lady here has been accused by her husband of incontinency, and of a design upon his life: but the proof not being thought sufficient, she was ordered to undergo the torture, that a confession might be extorted from her; which, according to the strange law here, is necessary to a full conviction. The manner of it was thus: she was drawn up almost naked, by her hands tied behind her, to the cieling of a room, and suspended there for an hour: which of necessity dislocated the joints, and put her to inexpressible pain: but all this she bore with the greatest patience. All Rome is of opinion, that she is innocent,

nocent, both from the process of the Trial, and from a Pamphlet published by one of the judges. What a villain must the old fellow her husband be, if, in order to accomplish some new amour, as many are apt to think, he could make such a sacrifice of youth, beauty, and innocence? Or what a miserable, jealous-pated wretch, if he could be instigated to such inhumanity, by his own ill-grounded suspicions? A useful lesson this to all, who may be inclined to imagine, that the chief blessing of the connubial state depends upon abundance of wealth; and that this alone is sufficient to render it tolerable, if not agreeable. From hence likewise the English ladies ought to set a higher value upon the extraordinary liberty they enjoy, in a countrey, where they are secure from all such barbarous inquisitions into their conduct.

His Holyness has lately built a small pleasure-house, in his gardens at Monte Cavallo; to which he has given the English name of *The Coffee-house*. The architect was Cavalier FUGA: and there are paintings to be placed there, which MAZUCCI and POMPEIO are now doing; the subject of which is CHRIST delivering the keys to S. PETER. My master was to have done them in fresco; but happened to be outwitted.

At Monte Citorio, where formerly stood the *Forum* of ANTONINUS, they are erecting a fine antique pedestal, which once supported a prodigious

gious pillar of Porphyry, of one piece of marble, fifty foot long. This column they have removed, and say it cannot be raised, because it is broken into so many pieces: but the expence is the true objection, since several Obelisks, more shattered than this, have been re-erected. Some talk, as if there was a design to place a statue of Justice, or some other modern figure, upon this pedestal: but how ridiculous would a modern statue appear, upon a pedestal with antique Inscriptions and Basso Relievos! I might as well draw ANTONINUS in a French sute, or our Bleffed Saviour in a long wig, as the Portuguese drefs up his image, when they carrie it in procession.

They are always digging here into the bowels of the earth for *Virtù*, and generally with success. In the fields behind the castle of S. Angelo, formerly the Mausoleum of ADRIAN, they have discover'd his *Circus*, and many other curious antiquities; of which I shall soon transmit an account to my Father, according to his desire.

Tho' I send you no family news, I shall expect a good deal from you, who make part of so large one. Mine consists onely of my-self and a cat, who is a most agreeable companion, always in good humour, and continually careffing me, without giving the least occasion of suspicion that she designs to deceive me.

Pray

Pray inform me particularly, how Drawing goes forward. By this time, I suppose, you have begun to colour ; and having already shewn your skill upon the inferiour part of the family, the cat, and dog, are now proceeding higher to the rest : for we painters, you know, rise by degrees. My advice is, that you would chiefly studie heads as big as the life, drawing them in crayons ; and applie very closely to it : for the time may come, that you will have no cause to repent of your past labour and patience. Who knows, but that, one of these days, you may see a rich DAMON, and I a PHYLLIS, paying vows at the altar of our Goddess ?

But my Master is always a preaching, ‘ Young man, beware of woman : for PAINTING is a jealous mistress ; she’ll not allow any gazing upon other Beauties, except in order to set herself off to greater advantage.’ This doctrine may perhaps have some effect upon me, while I continue abroad : but if Signora LA PITTURA shall think fit to accompanie me at my return, she must not expect the same devotion, which I have pay’d her here. My pretty country-women will certainly now and then draw off my eyes from her ; and I shall not put my-self to so much expence in paper, linen, and colours, to deck her forth, as I have hitherto done. After so long and faithful service, I may justly hope, that she will do something

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something on her part for the ease and pleasure of my future life ; and then she shall find me constant to the last. But if out of jealousy she shall take disgust, and slighting me, confer her favours upon others, or return into her own countrey ; I shall not think it worth my while to follow her. But I shall turn all my affection and veneration towards her elder Sister ; who, tho' plainer, and adorned with less art, is more admired in England. In whose service you have been engaged for some time ; and in which if I find you at my return, we may by our mutual assiduity and endeavours to please her, secure her favour, and thereby both your prosperity, and that of,

Dear C. Your most affectionate, &c.

L E T T E R XXXIV.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Sept. 10. 1743. N. S.*

LEST my account of the statues, &c. should not have answered your expectation, and lest this which I now send of the * pictures should fall as much short of it ; I think it necessary to

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F f

mention

* " Such Pictures were never seen in our days ; and were
" you to see them, you would be surprized as much as I
" was ; for you would see paintings finished to the highest
" pitch, coloured to perfection, and as fresh as if they had
" been done a month ago." CAM. PAD.

mention now what I before omitted, the great disadvantages, under which I made my observations upon them. It was with some difficulty, and by the interest of Mr. ALLEN, the English consul, that we were admitted to see them at all, the first time, about three years ago. Which difficulty was occasioned by an attempt just before to make some designs of the paintings by CAMILLO PADERNI; who was thereupon immediately sent packing. Ever since which time, those who are allowed the favour of seeing them, are watched very narrowly, and not permitted to make use of a pencil. All therefore that I could do, was to range them in my memory, as well as I could; and from thence to commit them to paper the same day. This I did twice; and have since compared my notes with the memorandums and remarks of others, and thereby made considerable additions to them. So that upon the whole, I am willing to hope, that you will be inclined to think the following account, as well as the preceding, less imperfect; and as full as can be reasonably expected, under such disadvantageous circumstances.

I. BACCHUS sitting, and HERCULES standing
before

I. " The figures are as big as the life; but we could not
" comprehend the design of it. You see a woman dressed
" in white sitting, with one hand resting on her head adorn-
" ed

before him : a Female Figure, in a sitting posture (I think upon clouds) behind HERCULES, winged, and her head crowned with laurel ; in her left hand spikes of corn, her right pointing to BACCHUS : on one side of HERCULES is a lion, and on the other an eagle : behind BACCHUS, stands a youth laughing ; and below him is a little boy suckled by a doe. BACCHUS and HERCULES are larger than the life.

II. THESEUS standing, with the *Minotaur* dead

F f 2

under

“ ed with a garland of flowers ; and several Deities (as they appear to me) in the air, with a black figure of HERCULES leaning upon his club. This figure is not of a piece with the rest, which are really prodigies of the pencil. Under the woman is a deer, which gives suck to a child. But was you to see this sitting figure, and the heads of those whom I take to be Divinities, how finely they are drawn and coloured, you would be astonished.” CAM. PAD.—“ This is called *The POMONA*, because among other figures, there is a woman sitting, crowned with fruits and blossoms. There are six figures, very agreeably grouped, and the eye is immediately pleased and reposed. The *Clair-obscur* in the other pictures is well understood, but particularly in this.” CRISPE.

II. “ This is eight palms broad by nine high. You see the figure of THESEUS naked and standing ; which, in my opinion, cannot be more properly resembled to any other thing, than the *ANTINOUS* of the *Belvidere*, both for the attitude and the air of the head. It is drawn and coloured with prodigious elegance. The Greek Boys, who are represented as returning him thanks for their deliverance, seem, for their noble simplicity, the work of DOMINICHINO, and the composition of the whole is worthy of RAPHAEL.” CAM. PAD.—The *Minotaur* lies dead at his feet ; a Youth is kissing his right hand ; ARIADNE and another figure stand at his left. These two pictures, being about twelve feet square, with their paint-
“ ed

under his feet; the monster represented * with a human body, and the head of a bull. There are three or four youths hanging about him, and caressing him for their deliverance, kissing his hands,

“ ed frames or borders round them, are as fresh and perfect, as if done yesterday; much more so, I assure you, than some of RAPHAEL’s in the Vatican: and for excellence and fine taste, they are, I think, beyond any thing I have seen.” CRISPE.—The *Minotaur* lies under his feet: the children are kissing his hands, and embracing his legs. This is a fine piece for the pathetic, S.—Admirably good T.

* The *Minotaur* in the *Musæum Florentinum*, Vol. II. Pl. 35. Fig. 1. is human down to the waist; to which is joined a taurine body, in the manner of a Centaur. This figure is placed in the midst of the Labyrinth.

But in the *Gemmae Antiquæ calatæ ex præcipuis Europæ Musæis*, &c. of PHILIP de Stofsch. fol. *Amst.* 1724. in Fig. LI. of THESEUS the work of PHILEMON, there is the following representation. ‘A craggy rock is seen at a distance, on which is placed a building of square stone, with an arched entrance; just without which lies a dead monster, with half of the body prostrate on the ground, and the left arm stretched out, having the head of a bull, but all the rest of the members human. For, tho’ in ancient coins the *Minotaur* is expressed by the body of a bull, and onely a human countenance; yet the Mythologists relate, that he was of the same form in which he is seen in this Gem; which opinion the engraver chose to follow. Apollodorus, Lib. iii. C. 4. Οὗτος ἔχει ταύρου πρόσωπον, τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ ἀνδρὸς. *Hic taurinum vultum, cætera autem virilia habuit.*

The onely two particular descriptions of the *Minotaur*, found in the Latin Poets, are both in STATIUS, and are most agreeable to the picture, and to the latter gem.

—Seque ipsum monstrofi ambagibus antri
Hispidæ torquentem luctantis colla juvenci:
Alternasque manus circum, et nodosa ligantem
Brachia, et abducto vitantem cornua vultu.

Theb. xii. 668, &c.

—quanto

hands, and embracing his feet: the figures at full length, and as large as the life.

III. CHIRON teaching ACHILLES to play on the harp, the figures at full length, and about three parts as big as the life: this is one of the finest painted, and best preserved of any.

IV. CHIRON teaching ACHILLES to cast the javelin.

V. A man sitting with his back towards you, holding in his left hand a piece of writing to another sitting in a thoughtful posture, with his head

—quanto circumdata nexu
Ruperit Aegides Minoi brachia tauri.

Achill. i. 191.

CATULLUS, long before STATIUS, seems to have had the same idea, tho' not so strictly expressed, but only by way of Simile.

*Nam velut in summo quatientem brachia Tauro
Quercum, aut congestam sudanti corpore pinum,
Indomitus turbo contorquens flamine robur
Eruit; illa procul radicibus exturbata
Prona cadit, latè quaecumvis obvia frangens:
Sic domito saevum prostravit corpore Theseus
Nequicquam vanis jactantem cornua ventis.*

De nuptiis Pelei et Thetidos. 105, &c.

III. CHIRON and young ACHILLES with a lyre: the face and great attention of the latter are very beautiful. S.—Extremely good, except the lower part of the Centaur. T.—“This is somewhat less, but if possible, still beyond the two former.” CRISPE.

IV CHIRON and ACHILLES, with two darts, or little javelins; the instructing air of the former is very remarkable. S.

V. One of the best Pieces, and the most pathetic of them all, has to the left a man sitting, with two fingers to his forehead, in a very pensive melancholy posture: a man sitting

head reclined upon his arm: a woman behind points up with her right hand; another, with a quiver at her shoulder, stands on her left; and a third close to her: a man, behind whom stands one very old, bends forward in a supplicating manner, with his finger at his mouth, towards the chief figure that is sitting. The figures are about half as big as the life: and it is thought by some to be the Story of APPIUS and VIRGINIA.

VI. JUPITER with the thunder-bolt in his hand, CUPID behind taking hold of his shoulder: half length.

VII. AMPHITRYO, and ALCMENA standing by, and looking at HERCULES, a little child strangling

sitting by him, turned towards him, and reading to him a little volume or scroll: two women, in what one may call the mid ground, with great sorrow and distress in their faces: an old man beyond them attentive and concerned: an old woman, standing forward to the right, attentive, but without concern. Behind, or in the back ground, is a statue of DIANA. S.—The heads in this Piece are the best among them all. T.

VI. CUPID resting over his right shoulder, and, as it were, keeping down his arm, and hand, that grasps the angry sort of *fulmen*: a half rain-bow across the picture; and a little without it, the Eagle. The face is that of the mild JUPITER. S.

VII. Little HERCULES sitting on the ground, with the two serpents. AMPHITRYO sitting just by him, drawing his sword, doubtfully; as willing to kill the serpents, and afraid to hurt his son: behind stands ALCMENA, exclaiming, as in the greatest distress and fright; and on the left hand is the nurse, with young EURYSTHEUS. The little HERCULES is not of an Herculean make, any otherwise, than that he looks like a child of a year old, whereas he had not been born above an hour. S.

strangling a serpent with each hand; AMPHITRYO with his hand on his sword, drawing it out: a figure of a woman, whose head is rubbed out, holding a child in her arms; much damaged, and about three parts as big as the life.

VIII. The figure of a man, with a Phrygian cap on his head, carrying in his hand a lamp, on a plate or salver, in white drapery, on a crimson ground: a three quarters figure, about half as big as the life.

IX. Three figures, which seem to be feminine, finely coloured, two with rays round them, and the third crowned with laurel: a small figure in the clouds, crowned also with laurel, with a pastoral crook in his hand, leaning towards the rest; half length, and half as big as the life. This is called the Judgment of PARIS.

X. A woman struggling with a Satyr, who is attempting to force her.

XI. A woman yielding to a Satyr. The figures of these two are about half as big as the life.

XII. A man and woman at dinner, the man with a cup in his hand, in the shape of a horn, going to drink; the servant at the door.

XIII. An Egyptian sacrifice.

XIV. Another.

XV. A

IX. The Three *Graces*, with something like a glory round their heads. T.

XV. A very good figure of a woman, in a pensive attitude, looking upwards, with her fingers crossed; and thumbs touching each other; a blunt sword resting upon her hands; bound about with a green ribbon: almost as big as the life.

XVI. SILENUS sitting; with boys squeezing the juice of grapes into his mouth: behind him is a female figure, with her back towards you: at his feet lies his ass; and opposite to him MERCURY is sitting, with a cap on his head, and a harp in his hand.

XVII. A female figure; half naked, with a leaf in her left hand.

XVIII. FLORA in a flying posture, with flowers in her left hand, her right supporting her robe, which is filled also with flowers.

XIX. HERCULES killing the STYMPHALIDES with his arrows: not so large.

XX. A person sitting with a glory round the head, not unlike that about SOL's head in the Vatican MS. of *Virgil*: two others standing, one with the same sort of glory, and the other crowned with laurel.

XXI. A Man sitting, armed with a double halberd, exactly like the modern ones. This and the following in small.

XXII. Ano-

XIX. HERCULES, a very good figure, shooting at the Stymphalides, which are high in the air; and under them, on the ground sits a Water Deity. S.

XX. See BARTOLI's *Virgil*, Plate V. S.

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XXII. Another armed with a halberd of a different sort.

XXIII. HERCULES's head, with his club.

XXIV. A little BACCHUS playing with a tyger.

XXV. CUPID dragging a ram along by his horns.

XXVI. CUPID mounted on a stag.

XXVII. CUPID in a chariot drawn by two swans.

XXVIII. Drawn by two lions.

XXIX. *Victory*, with laurel in her hand.

XXX. A Leopard pursuing a deer.

XXXI. A Car loaded with bows, arrows, and other weapons; two griffins ready to draw it.

XXXII. An odd kind of bird, standing very strait upon his legs, having a tuft of feathers on his head; with two smaller birds, a vase, and different sorts of shrubs.

XXXIII. Its companion.

XXXIV. A Parrot drawing a chariot, and a Grasshopper driving.

XXXV. A Goose as big as the life; with small birds and fruit above.

XXXVI. A Duck finely done, as big as the life.

XXXVII. A Cock with a bunch of grapes.

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XXIV. There is a very pretty little statue, just like this, among the King of Sardinia's antiques, at Turin. S.

XXXVIII. A Cock, by himself. Both very good.

XXXIX. A Peacock between other birds. Very small.

XL. A Rabbit, with four figs.

XLI. About twenty CUPIDS or *Genii*; some playing upon musical instruments.

There were * many others on different subjects: several of an oblong size, on a dark ground, representing sacrifices, nuptials, &c. several pieces of architecture, in one the colours remarkably fresh; landships with buildings and figures in small; many hunting pieces, masks, festons, &c. others representing household utensils, &c. particularly one having the figure of a candlestick, of the same form with one in brass found in the same place.

There are two pieces of Mosaic. One a BACCHUS sitting on a stool, crowned with ivy, resting

XLI. Among the lowest, or worst preserved, is a long slip of CUPIDS represented as in the chase. S.

* They say they have to the number of 140. There is one large square, with HERCULES and *Victory* on one side; and BACCHUS with a Faun, on the other.—Several others, only of a single *Bacchante*, or *Genius*. S.—“Two pieces of greater height than breadth, in which there are two figures, half human, and half fish, which fly in the air.—“Another figure, which we think to be a MERCURY, with a child in his hand, delivering it to a woman sitting.—“Four landships, with temples, and other buildings.—“A tyger with a boy upon it; and another boy, who plays on a tympanum: with many others.” CAM. PAD.

ing his right hand on the head of a leopard. The other a man sitting on a globe, leaning his head on his left hand, and his right hand on his knee.

The Gallery, which is designed to be built for the reception of all these curiosities, and of those which may be found hereafter, will be without doubt, when finished, one of the finest in the world. For besides the statues, of which there are above twenty, all as big, and some bigger than the life; the collection of antique paintings is superior, if not in number, certainly in goodness, to all the pieces of that nature scattered up and down the several parts of Europe. And particularly as to one kind of rarities, different sorts of instruments, household utensils, &c. which are at least above sixteen hundred and fifty years old, there is a greater variety than was ever collected together before. And as they are daily discovering more and more, of each of these kinds of antiquities; in process of time, here will be an immense treasure, continually receiving augmentation from an inexhaustible mine. In digging in which, about twenty galley-slaves, chained together, two and two, and guarded by soldiers, are constantly employed; who have each a small basket, into which they put what they find, and are well searched at their coming out from their work.

It was in and about the theatre, that most of the statues, and several of the pictures have been found; and if it were not too great a work to clear away the ground that covers this building, it would certainly appear to be one of the noblest remnants of antiquity. A gentleman who has seen it since I was there last, tells me, that the seats, as he thinks are but eighteen, upon the uppermost of which one may walk the whole length; that on one side there is a door, which leads into a covered gallery, which, he supposes, served for a passage, it being not very spacious; and that a very good staircase has been made for the use of the king, whenever his curiosity shall lead him to go down, and take a view of this subterraneous city.

After the long account, Sir, which I have given, of the frequent earthquakes and fiery eruptions, and of the fatal effects of them, in so many places near mount Vesuvius; you may be apt to wonder, that any number of persons should venture to dwell within the confines of it. But the fineness of the prospect, the fertility of the soil, the salubrity of the air in preserving, and the virtue of the waters in restoring health, all conspire to induce multitudes to reside here constantly, and others to repair hither at proper seasons: inasmuch, that this tract of land, for the extent of
it,

it, is perhaps better inhabited, than any other in all Italy. And what at first mention may appear strange, those very things, which are the natural and original causes of desolation in particular parts, are likewise the chief causes of the general abundance of the inhabitants. For throughout this tract, besides great plenty of more noble minerals, there is a vast quantity of sulphur, bitumen, nitre, allum, vitriol, and other salts; which contribute to render both the soil fruitful, and the air healthful. And these, by a close mixture with one another, or from some more hidden reason, are naturally disposed to be easily heated and even inflamed; and thereby produce the sources of those hot waters, which spring up in such a number of places. And it is not very difficult to imagine, how these different kinds of inflammable matter, diffused and concealed under ground, may by degrees be heaped together and augmented in some one district; how afterwards by an internal motion they may take fire; and how at last this fire, having forced the earth to crack, may throw itself abroad with the greatest rage and fury, and produce all the *phenomena* that accompany the eruptions of volcanos. Thus, as * the Academy of sciences at Naples expresses it, ‘ this part of the kingdom is full, if not of a fire that is actually alive and burning, yet at least
‘ of

* *Istoria dell' incendio del Vesuvio &c. Introduzione.*

‘ of the seeds of fire. And this is so far from
 ‘ discrediting and depreciating the territory, that
 ‘ this very fire, or somewhat equivalent to it,
 ‘ causes the excessive fruitfulness of the ground,
 ‘ the wholesomeness of the air, the variety and
 ‘ virtue of the remedies, which Providence has
 ‘ prepared in the natural baths for the infirmities
 ‘ of mankind : in short, from hence proceed all
 ‘ the marvellous properties, which, according
 ‘ to the common sentiment of the greatest Sages,
 ‘ give this countrey the glory of being one of the
 ‘ best and pleasantest places of the whole earth.’

I am, Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

LETTER XXXV.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Rome, Oct. 12. 1743. N. S.*

THE greatest part of the last year we lay
 under the continual apprehension of the *In-
 fluenza* ; which carried off a great number of per-
 sons, and among them two or three of my coun-
 trey-men, and particular acquaintance. This year,
 we have been under the terror of the plague ;
 which has raged so long at Messina, and swept
 away, according to some late accounts, 50,000
 people. The number, I hope, is exaggerated : but
 this

this is certain, the infection has reached Reggio in Calabria, and the island of Cephalonia belonging to the Venetians ; and several infected vessels are roving about in great distress : upon which, an Edict was published here the other day, prohibiting, under pain of death, any commerce with the Venetian state. All the coasts are strictly guarded, and all the gates of this city shut up, except four ; through which none are permitted either to go out, or to come in, without a bill of health. At first, a very great panic spread itself among us, and drove several persons away : but we have had time to recover from our consternation, and are at present under no very terrible apprehensions. For my part, believing Providence to be the same in all places, I never had any notion of local security ; nor can I think my flight to any great purpose, when in running away from a plague, I may perhaps meet with a fever. The thing to be dreaded most under a contagion is, the want of the necessaries of life ; a competent stock of which every family that can afford it has been laying in here. Some provision of this kind is more especially needful for persons in my situation, in a countrey, where people have but little charity for us, even while we spend our money freely among them ; who will therefore, I fear, have much less, when they see us driven to extremities.

But

But neither the apprehension of the *Influenza*, nor the terror of the pestilence, has given me half the uneasiness which I have undergone, from the unreasonableness, ill humour, treachery, and enmity of deceitful friends : who have not onely abused me plentifully in this, but have likewise written scandalous Letters concerning me into other countries. But I hope, Sir, you will not regard any calumnies, which an envious head, or a malicious pen, is capable of inventing, or scribbling ; and that you will take my character from those English gentlemen, with whom I have had the honour frequently to converse, and whom you may probably see soon after their return : and by their accounts of me I am willing to stand or fall.

Great and many are the favours I have received from them : which tho' I do not pretend to deserve, yet I can plead the negative merit of refusing to be instrumental, in putting off curiosities upon them, at an exorbitant price ; and of exposing my-self, on that account, to the malicious resentment of the disappointed proposers. Such mean artifices, I always scorned and detested ; looking upon them, as no other than the low craft and dexterity of a pick-pocket. This has given me great comfort under the narrowness of my fortune ; and yielded a satisfaction, which none of my enemies could deprive me of, either
in

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in whole, or in part.----Nor do I assume to my-self any greater virtue by this conduct, than that described by the Heathen Poet in four words, *Virtus est vitium fugere*: and my *virtue*, I own, is so much the less, as the *vice*, which I have shunned; would have been the greater; being aggravated by ingratitude. For to shew my-self not ungrateful; is surely the least that I can possibly do; while I continue in such a situation, as not to be able to give any other than verbal proofs of my gratitude. These, I am sensible, are all, which the Gentlemen, to whom I am so much obliged, will accept. But you, Sir, as the head of so large a family, have just reason to expect somewhat more. And if, at my return, I shall be so fortunate as to reap the desired fruits of my past labours; your participation in the harvest will render it much more agreeable and satisfactory to,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R XXXVI.

To Dr. R.

DEAR DOCTOR, Rome, Nov. 7. 1744. N. S.

HAVING been lately entertained with a surprizing and agreeable sight, I imagine, that a relation of it will not be unacceptable;

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H h

especially,

especially, as it is not likely, that you will see any exact account of it in your News-papers : which will probably either suppress or palliate the precipitate flight of the Austrians, and the close pursuit of the Neapolitans and Spaniards.

Italy, you know, has been the scene of war for some years ; and for this last, the Ecclesiastical State has felt the sad effects of it. We have had two armies lying within twenty miles of us, a long time ; and 'tis impossible to describe the havock and ruin which both, but particularly the German, have made in this fine country. They cut down woods and vineyards, drink wine 'till they are drunk ; and then out of sport, or malice, set the rest a running about the cellars. This has happened to many, and particularly to a friend of mine, who has a most delightful country-house and vineyard near Velletri ; where I was for about a month last spring ; to whom they have done above 6000 crowns damage. It is the more surprizing, that they should insult and injure their friends in this outrageous manner : for such the Romans are, and hate the Spaniards mortally.

However, last week, we began to have some glimpse of hopes, that we should soon be freed from the ill neighbourhood of both friends and foes : for a bridge of boats was thrown over the Tiber, near Ponte Molle, in order to the repassing

sing of the army under Prince LOBKOWITZ. Accordingly on last sunday, Nov. 1. he decamped from the Faiola, on this side Velletri, at a place called Torre di mezza via; the next day, having made a long march, he came by the walls of Rome. All the gates being shut and guarded, that none could stir out, curiosity drew all sorts of people to the walls; where, among a regiment of Friars, was your Heretical Brother. You will perhaps wonder, how I came among such company: but having an Italian proverb on my side, I had the good fortune to be admitted into a vineyard of theirs, excellently well situated for a full view of the army, as it passed under the walls.

After a great number of tag, rag, and bob tail, consisting of men, women, and children; with carriages, horses, and asses, loaded with pots, kettles, and all sorts of baggage; appeared the van-guard of Hussars, followed by a regiment of foot, with four mortars, and six pieces of cannon. As there were many regiments of different nations, as Slavonians, Pandours, Lycanians, &c. I cannot pretend to be exact, as to the order of their march; they being intermixed, according to the fancy of the General. ---- The Hussars, for the most part, were dressed in blue, short jackets, with a short mantle behind, wearing a high cap, the end of which fell upon their

right shoulder: they were armed with a long
fabre, a carabine, and pistols; and their horses
looked like half-starved Rosinantes, but seemed
to be of vast spirit. --- The Sclavonians and Pan-
dours, which are infantry, are fine, stout, well-made
fellows; their dress is a jacket, like your sailors;
but instead of trowsers, they have breeches and
stockings all of a piece like Highlanders; they
wear a high, round, black cap, flat at the top;
and are armed with a fabre, a gun, and four pi-
stols, stuck in their girdle, before and behind.
--- The Lycanians are the nastiest, frightfullest
creatures I ever saw in my life: your Newgate
Birds do not cut half so bad a figure. As to their
dress, a dirty, red cap, and a tawny-coloured
mantle, flung over their shoulders, were the chief
things that made them appear to be of the hu-
man species; and they carried old-fashioned guns,
such as are kept for curiosities in the tower.
There was a great number of these wretches, tho'
so many were knocked on the head at Velletri;
they being always set foremost, as the Forlorn
Hope, in desperate engagements. They are
Heathens, and having no pay live by plunder;
and neither give, nor receive quarter: so that
you may imagine, what fine work they make,
wherever the Devil sends them. --- The regu-
lar Troops, both horse and foot, looked like
brave fellows; tho' they did not make near so
good

good an appearance, as when I saw them at Monte Rotondo, about five months ago.---- The General, Prince LOBKOWITZ, was towards the rear, finely mounted, and attended by a regiment of horse, Hussars, &c. with about sixteen pieces of cannon, and eight or ten mortars. The Lycanians brought up the rear, divided into different picquets, consisting each of about fifty men; and ten or a dozen Hussars closed the rear, who by turns rode backwards, and forwards, to see if the enemy was pursuing, or any spies observing them.

It was no small satisfaction and pleasure, I assure you, which I received, in seeing an army march so near me, composed of people of different countries, and dressed in such different habits. I had seen them, indeed, once before, when drawn up in a large plain, where the eye could not examine them so minutely: here they passed by, just under me, as it were in review, not above ten in a rank, in a road, between the walls of Rome, and those of the vineyards.

Scarce had the last Hussar passed by, when we were alarmed with the news, that the Spanish army was actually in pursuit: which no-body would believe, because the Romans, being so partially inclined to the Germans, and averse to the Spaniards, had such a despicable opinion of the latter, that they were sure they dared not follow.

But

But to their great surprize and mortification, within three quarters of an hour, the advanced guard of the Spanish army appeared; having made a prodigious and unexpected march from beyond Albano. They came with drums beating, trumpets sounding, and ensigns displayed; and actually overtook the rear of the Germans, before they had all passed the bridge of boats at Ponte Molle. The King of Naples, and the Duke of Modena, attended in the most splendid manner, by their officers, cavalry, &c. proceeded as far as the Villa Patrizi, just without the Porta Pia; where they stopped. But the rest of the army continued their march to the Porta del popolo, the gate which leads to the Ponte Molle; on this side of which they incamped among the vineyards.

The next morning, the King and the Duke entering Rome on horse-back, attended by two regiments of Horse-guards, went to Monte Cavallo, to visit his Holyness: who, to avoid many inconvenient ceremonies, received the former, not as King of Naples, but as Prince of Salerno. His Majesty, having kissed his Holyness's toe, went with his attendance to S. Peter's, and from thence to the Vatican; where having dined, he set out in the evening for Gaeta, to meet his Queen.

While his Majesty was diverting himself within the walls of Rome, the two armies were saluting

luting one another continually with musquet and cannon balls, cross the Tiber. For the Germans had just time enough to cut their bridge of boats, and to fortifie the farther end of the stone bridge called Ponte Molle, where there is a tower; beyond which there are some high hills, where they had placed a battery, that pointed directly upon the bridge, from whence the road runs in a strait line, the length of two miles, to the walls of Rome. So that in attempting to gain the bridge, the Spaniards lost many men: and it was a shocking sight, to see the wounded and maimed brought continually from time to time into the city. From an eminence I plainly saw the battery of the Germans play, but not that of the Spaniards, which was in low ground. On thursday the 5th the former thought proper to retire from their post, towards Bologna; and the latter continued their pursuit, at a little distance.

Mr. DRAKE, Mr. HOLDSWORTH, and Mr. TOWNSON left this place a month since, intending to pass through both armies, in their way to Naples. From the two last I hope to receive some further information concerning Herculanum, and a more particular and additional * account of the statues, pictures, &c. some of which have been found since I was there. I expect the
return

* This Account is inserted in LETTERS XXXII. and XXXIV.

return of these gentlemen very soon, and long extremely for it ; their repeated favours having contributed much to the comfort and pleasure of my life. Mr. DRAKE is one of the most sprightly, agreeable, and amiable persons living : whose generosity, tho' equal to his great estate, is not ostentatiously displayed in extravagant expences, but regularly dispensed with discreet oeconomy, and a prospect of doing some real and lasting good. Such natural endowments as his, improved by the constant advice of so ingenious, learned, prudent a monitor, as Mr. HOLDSWORTH, when grown up to maturity, I may venture to presage, will shine out conspicuously in the service of his countrey. These two Gentlemen, together with their companion in their travels, as well as civilities to me, I have painted in a conversation-piece : and could gratitude have directed the pencil and the pen, according to the desire of the painter, both the Picture and this Letter would have done full justice to the subjects, and neither the strokes of a VANDYKE been wanting in the one, nor those of a PLINY in the other.

I hope, Doctor, you now roll in your chariot and pair, or have got a brace of stout geldings : and this I hope, not onely out of regard to yourself, but likewise to my old acquaintance little JACK ; who, if he continues still in your service,
and

and the account I have lately received of you be true, must needs bend under your weight, as in many pictures here SILENUS's ass is represented sinking under him. I am glad to find, that you thrive so much upon matrimony : which I take to be a proof of your perfect satisfaction, and of an intire freedom from the vexations, which now and then by chance attend that happy state. The jolly figure you make must needs recommend it to others : and thereby not only consequentially promote the business of Physic, but likewise directly recommend it, as being a demonstration of the goodness of your Regimen. As for my part, were I in your situation, I should bring a disgrace upon both ; and might be justly looked upon as the ghost of Matrimony, and the skeleton of Physic. But, I hope, in due time after my return, by your skillful assistance, to be put in a way, first of augmenting, and then of multiplying myself ; and thus to become a credit both to medicinal and matrimonial operations. In undertaking the last of which, tho' I begin so long after you, I may perhaps be more successful in a vivacious offspring, to keep up the name of the family, in case yours should prove deficient. This I sincerely desire it may not ; but that on the contrary, by its numerousness, it may yield me an opportunity of displaying the utmost of my art in a conversation-piece. In which

my Sister and you must be the principal figures, with a groupe of my nephews and nieces, on each side, represented at employments or diversions proper to their age and sex. Nor shall I forget to introduce my own figure among the rest; not looking askew, with the envious eyes of a Painter, upon persons who have drawn more to the life, than himself; but with the chearful countenance of an Uncle, highly pleased with the entertaining sight of your little family, as being with the greatest sincerity,

Your most affectionate Brother, &c.

L E T T E R XXXVII.

To Mrs. R.

HONOURED MADAM, *Rome, May 16. 1745.*

HAVING omitted, through want of time, to make you a proper acknowledgment of my duty, in a paquet, sent about two months ago by some English Gentlemen; I thought it necessary, by this means, to prevent what would be otherwise a just complaint, upon not finding a Letter for your-self among the rest. I think it a tribute of gratitude, which you have the greatest reason to expect, at least once a year, for those innumerable past instances of your affection towards me; tho' the great distance of place
should

should hinder the future communication of any such agreeable tokens of it, as those, for which I now return my hearty thanks; the shirts, and the stockings, which fit exactly.

I am glad, that my Father approves of my intended journey to Naples; which I must now defer, 'till the heats are over: for Mr. S. who was to be my companion thither, sets out this day on a pilgrimage to Loretto. Which could he have delayed a while longer, I think I should have been very well prepared for such an expedition my-self; being likely in a few days to have neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in my purse. I intend to accompanie him, about five or six miles out of Rome, as far as OVID's Tomb, in the Via Flaminia: where having payed my respects, I shall leave my Friend to proceed with his staff of devotion to the Lady of Loretto. As this celebrated Tomb contains many curious things, I have the greater desire to visit it; in order to draw some of the most remarkable, in a book; in which I took down another antique sepulchre, discovered a few years ago, a copy of which I have transmitted to my Father.

But as no ancient curiosity can be so entertaining to you, as some fine piece of modern art; I here send you a description of a New Monument, lately erected in the south isle of S. Peter's, over a door, between two Corinthian pillars of beauti-

ful red and white marble, which are forty-five feet high, and help to support an arch of that isle.---A figure, representing divine Love, sits upon an urn of porphyry: with her right arm she embraces the portrait of a Royal Personage; and the other she extends towards heaven, holding in the palm of her hand a burning flame. On her right hand, stands an angel assisting in supporting the portrait, which is painted in Mosaic. From the feet of divine Love, down each side of the urn, falls a curtain of oriental agate. Beneath the urn, between that and the top of the door, are placed two little angels, one holding a crown, and the other a sceptre. The initial letters of the inscription upon the urn are, M.C.M.B.F. & H.R. From behind the figure of Divine Love, rises a pyramid of porphyry, which is set off by a background of a light sky painted in Mosaic, which is surrounded with borders of verdantique, and gilt bronze, &c. The disposition of the figures and marble is very beautiful; and the whole cost twenty thousand Roman crowns.

Yesterday the body of the * Princess CLEMENTINA SOBIESKI was removed from the vaults of S. Peter's, to this noble monument, in the manner following.--- The chapel, called *La Cappella del Choro*, was hung all over with black velvet, fringed and laced with gold. In the middle

was

* She died Jan. 18. 1735. N. S. aged 33.

was erected a large canopy of state of the same stuff; the four corners of which reached to each side of the chapel, and were supported by four angels. Under it the corpse was placed, covered with a pall of gold tissue, &c. over which were fixed two little angels, one holding a crown, the other a sceptre. The chapel was adorned with angels, death's-heads gilded, inscriptions, &c. interspersed, and illuminated with an infinite number of wax-candles. All the attendants on the family, &c. appeared in deep mourning; and a great many of the Cardinals and Nobility were present. Solemn music was performed by voices and instruments from each side of the chapel: and after the office was over, which was about mid-day, the corpse was carried in a grand ceremony, and deposited in the urn of porphyry.

Such solemnities, in honour of the great, the religious, the beautiful, and the young, leave a deep impression on the mind of all, who are able, and willing to think; and naturally suggest a train of useful and necessary reflections. They give a check to that levity, self-opinion, and security, in which persons of my age are too apt to indulge themselves; as if the thoughts of death were proper only for those, who are far advanced in years. Whereas we see persons of the greatest quality, beauty, and finest constitutions, daily hurried off the stage in their youth,

youth, or in the full strength and vigour of their age. And therefore it is impossible, that we who are placed in lower life, and perhaps want their best qualifications, can really think our-selves secure. The truth of the matter is, we do not, properly speaking, think at all; we do not give our-selves time to think, or to pursue such thoughts, as would interrupt our pursuit of pleasure, and oblige us to change our conduct.

But how irrational is this? We have a long voyage to make into a foreign countrey, which we must all soon undertake; and which we may be forced to begin at a day's, or an hour's warning. In the mean time, many affairs of the greatest consequence are to be settled, many things to be provided for our convenience and security in our passage; otherwise we shall be infallibly ruined, and irrecoverably lost. Yet we venture to defer this settlement from day to day, never think seriously of our voyage, nor make the least provision or preparation for it. Into what hurry and confusion must we inevitably be thrown, when we shall be obliged to set out altogether unprepared! A faint resemblance of this confusion, I have too often, through my inadvertency, experienced, in undertaking shorter journeys: but, I trust in God, I shall never be so imprudent, so foolish, and so mad, as to expose my-self to an infinitely greater confusion, and even consternation.

By

LETTER XXXVIII. 247

By this, Madam, you may perceive, that I still retain the impressions, which your instructions made upon me in my tender, and your example, in my riper, years. And I beg, that you would not give your-self the least uneasiness, by any apprehensions with regard to my religion; which I shall never be induced to lay aside, for any gayer fashion, which I may see in this country. Of this I hope to live to give you the most convincing proofs at my return; and to shew you, that I have preserved not onely the external form of my Christian profession, but somewhat likewise of the spirit of it, by endeavouring to the utmost of my power to discharge part of that immense debt, due to so kind and good a Parent, from,

Honoured Madam,

Your most obedient, &c.

LETTER XXXVIII.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Florence, July 13. 1745. N. S.*

YOU will wonder, no doubt, to see a Letter of mine dated from this place: of my journey to which I should certainly have given you notice, had the design of it been formed any considerable time before the execution. But it

was

was very sudden: and tho' curiosity, encouraged by having the best of company, and a full security from any expence, might be a sufficient motive to undertake this ramble; yet many reasons concurred to persuade me, that my greatest interest and well-fare depended upon it; with which I may acquaint you at large at a more proper time. At present, give me leave to reflect with wonder and complacency upon the vicissitudes of my fortune, since I have been abroad; and upon the sudden turn and flowing of the tide, when my affairs seemed to be sinking pretty near the lowest ebb. Had the remittances, which you have so kindly made me from time to time, been doubled; I could not have seen half those fine places and things, which, under all my difficulties, I have seen to the greatest advantage imaginable.

On May the 5th I left Rome, in company with Mr. DAWKINS, Mr. BOUVERIE, and Mr. PHELPS, taking the road to Loretto; from whence we went to Ancona, and so to Bologna, where we arrived the 12th. After a week's stay at which place, we set out for Venice, in order to be there at the feast of the Ascension. There I had the satisfaction of meeting Mr. DRAKE, Mr. HOLDSWORTH, and Mr. TOWNSON, and of enjoying for a few days the pleasure of their conversation; a pleasure rendered more grateful by
a long

a long intermission. But, alas, how swiftly did they pass away, and bring on the 4th of June! when with great concern I took * my last farewell of those Gentlemen, and of Mr. DAWKINS; to all of whom I had very great, and to some the greatest, obligations. On that day, Mr. BOUVÉRIE, Mr. PHELPS, and myself set out for this place, leaving them at Venice; from whence they designed to proceed in a day or two towards Vienna, in their return to England.

As the business of painting, Sir, requires a very close and constant application, you may be apt to suspect, that my attendance upon Gentle-
men

* These words seem to have been ominous: for with respect to Mr. HOLDSWORTH, it proved indeed a *last farewell*; who died of a fever, at the Right Hon. the Lord Digby's seat at Colehill in Warwickshire, Dec. 30. 1747. The Rev. Dr. EDWARD COBDEN, Archdeacon of London, in a Note upon his *STRENA ad Reverendum virum Doctorem LAVINGTON Episcopum nominatum*, laments this Gentleman's death in the words following.

Quam fragiles sunt humanæ spes! quam confusæ et incertæ sortes! Dum hæc scribimus, fortunam et dignitatem uni gratulantes, allata eheu! est fama, quæ me summo mœrore affecit, alterius, etiam condiscipuli quondam, & amici per omnem vitam suavissimi, EDWARDI HOLDSWORTH animam corpus suum nuper reliquisse.

Qualem neque candiorem

Terra tulit, neque cui me sit devinctior alter. Collusimus enim pueri, et gaudia et dolores miscuimus per sexennium contubernales. Indolis erat aded ingenuæ, ut si quisquam alius, sine vitiis nasci videretur. Jucundus et probus, quia aliter fieri vix potuit. Dolendum sanè est illum in unum incidisse errorem, per quem patriæ amissus est longè antequam moretetur. Ut illius vita omnes ad virtutem et pietatem incitavit, ita mors ejus nos præcipue admonet veteranos commilitones, numero jam paucos, nos alterum alteros arctius amplecti; quo

men has taken me off too much from it. Had this attendance indeed been indiscriminately upon all, or most of those who travel hither, your suspicion would not have been ill-grounded: for the bare loss of time is generally too great a price for the honour of keeping grand company, and the participation of good chear. And besides this, it is perhaps no easy matter to decline going such lengths, in order to render ones self more agreeable, as are apt to indispose one for business, and may by degrees bring on habits inconsistent with it.

But

enim radii sunt contractiones, eo magis debent calefacere. p. 6. 7.

‘ How frail are the hopes ! how confused and uncertain
‘ the lots of mankind ! Whilst I am writing this, and congratulating the fortune and dignity of one old School-fellow and Friend, bad news, alas ! has been brought me, which afflicts me with the greatest sorrow ; That Mr. EDWARD HOLDSWORTH, my other *Quondam* School-fellow, and most delightful Friend throughout his whole life, is lately dead :

*Than whom no purer Soul the earth e’er bore,
Nor to whom Any was devoted more.*

‘ For we were play-fellows, when boys ; and likewise mutually intermixed our joys and sorrows, being chamber-fellows for six years together. He was of a natural disposition so ingenuous, that if ever any other person was, he seemed to be born without vices. A pleasant companion, and a man of probity, because he could scarcely be otherwise. It is indeed to be lamented, that he fell into one error, by which he became lost to his countrey long before he died. As his life incited all to the practice of virtue and piety : so his death more especially admonishes us veteran fellow-soldiers, now reduced to a small number, to embrace one another the more closely ; for the more contracted the rays are, so much the more ought they to warm.’

He

But the Gentlemen, with whom it has been my good fortune to be most acquainted, did not travel merely to amuse, but to improve themselves; and having a good taste for the Liberal Arts, instead of interrupting and hindering, they continually promoted the prosecution of them. In their company indeed I could not actually employ my hand in drawing; but I could thereby gain a freer access to the finest pictures, I could hear their sentiments about them, and learn some remarkable particularities, both concerning the works themselves, and the masters who drew them.

He was elected Demy of Magdalene College in Oxford in July 1705. where he soon rendered himself very eminent by a Latin Poem intitl'd *Muscipula*. In a few years he became the College Tutor, and had a considerable number of Pupils. But in January 1715, when, according to the order of succession at that time observed, he was the next to be chosen into a Fellowship, he resigned his Demyship, and left the College. - - So that the *one error* of this Gentleman, which his friend the Doctor so much laments, was his declining the political oaths; which yet had he taken, with a repugnant, or even a doubting conscience, it cannot be denied, that he would have fallen into somewhat worse than an error. Nor did this error, it is humbly hoped, render him intirely lost to his countrey long before he died; since, from the time he fell into it 'till his death, he travelled as Tutor with young Noblemen and Gentlemen: whose minds he not only cultivated with all polite literature, but formed their manners by the strictest rules of morality, and incited them by his own example, as well as precepts, to the practice of virtue and piety.

It is this Gentleman, of whom the Revd. Mr. SPENCE speaks with so much honour, in three places of his late ingenious and learned Work intitl'd *Polymetis*; suppressing his name, I suppose by his own express order. The first place is in *Book V. Dial. xi. p. 174. n. 81.*

them. As their plentiful, tho' temperate, entertainments yielded me a most agreeable refreshment, after the fatigues of study; so, by their ingenious conversation being improved in the theory, I returned to the practical part with greater diligence and application.

By the favour of accompanying them, I have gained the sight of many fine things in Rome, and in the places round about, which, it is probable, I should not otherwise have seen at all, or at least with great difficulty, and to much less advantage. But it is certain, that without this favour, I could not have yet seen those several cities and towns,

' A Gentleman, I have long known, (and who seems to me to understand VIRGIL in the most masterly manner, of any man I ever did know,) reads the passage thus:

Milvæ venit annua cura:

*Candidus auratis aperit cum cornibus annum
Taurus, et adverso cedens Canis occidit astro.*

Georg. I. v. 218.

' My friend takes *Canis* here to be the genitive case: and understands, *adverso astro*, of that Constellation; and not of *Taurus*. His sense therefore of it, is: "Sow millet; from the year's opening under *Taurus*, to the setting of that constellation." ' This period reaches from the beginning, to about the middle of April..... *Adverso* was the true original reading; according to the oldest and best Manuscripts: and is used in particular by MACROBIUS.—The year, in respect to agriculture, began with the month of April; which thence, probably, had its very name *Aprilis*; quasi *aperilis*, ab *aperiendo*.—The expressions seem in this sense to be more poetical than in the other; and more agreeable to the positions and appearance of these Constellations on the ancient globe.—COLUMELLA (who lived in the same country and in the same age) says "the sowing of millet should be finished by the middle of April." Lib. ii. Chap. 2.

In

towns, at a greater distance from Rome, which are eminent, either for their ancient or present magnificence, or for many curiosities of art or nature. Such as Naples, and the places near it; of which I have formerly given you some account: and those which I saw very lately, Loretto, Ancona, Bologna, and Venice; concerning which, and Florence, where I now am, you may expect, in a little time some detail of such things in each, as seemed to me most remarkable.

All the convenience, the ease, and the pleasure of travelling to Venice, I owe to Mr. DAWKINS; and the continuation of the most agreeable

In *Book VII. Dial. xiv. p. 232.* treating of these verses,

*Et gemina auratus taurino cornua vultu
Eridanus; quo non alius per pingua culta
In mare purpureum violentior effluit amnis.*

George. iv. 373.

‘ Mr. SPENCE adds, I am not quite clear as to that expression [*quo non alius violentior amnis,*] replied POLYMETIS: but to answer you as far as I can, I must give you the opinion of a man whom you both know; and whose name I need not mention to you, when I have told you it is the person, who understands VIRGIL in a more masterly manner, than perhaps any one in this age. It is his opinion, (with all that modesty, with which he generally offers his opinions,) that the difficulty you mention may possibly be got over, by the expression joined with it, *per pingua culta*. The most violent rivers in the world are such as run, or fall, thorough a chain of mountains. . . . But the Po, you know, very soon after its source, flows on thro’ the vale of Piemont; and afterwards, traverses all the rich vale of Lombardy. These are the *pingua culta*, which VIRGIL speaks of: almost the whole course of the Po, is thorough such rich low ground: and perhaps there may not be any river in the world, which has almost all its course through so flat and rich a soil, which is so violent as the Po is.’ The

ble journey from thence to this place, to Mr. BOUVERIE. The obligations, which these Gentlemen, and others, have layed upon me, by favours of this kind, I acknowledge to be very great; yet I do not think they arise intirely, or chiefly, from those external accommodations, which are the effects of wealth and generosity. But that which in my opinion peculiarly heightens and compleats them, was the free, easy, and ingenious conversation of persons of so polite a taste: by injoying which so frequently, I can say with truth, and will venture to do it, being directed, not by vanity, but gratitude, That I have

The third place, relating to Mr. HOLDSWORTH, is in *Book IX. Dial. xvi. p. 276. n. 162.*

*Est locus Italiae medio, sub montibus altis,
Nobilis et famâ multis memoratus in oris;
Amsancti valles. Densis hunc frondibus atrum
Urget utrimque latus nemoris; medioque fragosus
Dat sonitum saxis et torto vertice torrens.*

* So the famous Flor. MS. not *vortice*. *Æn. vii. 567.*
‘ *Amsanctus* is placed, both by the antients and moderns, in
‘ the kingdom of Naples; between Trevicum and Ache-
‘ rontia. . . . The place which is now called *Nesanto* (as sup-
‘ posed by corruption; see *Leon Alberti f. 101.*) is in a dark
‘ vale, near Treviso; inclosed on each side by hills, and
‘ gloomy woods. In the midst are two or three filthy holes;
‘ in one of which the water bursts up to the height of three
‘ or four feet, (sometimes more, and sometimes less,) [de-
‘ scribed by *torto vertice*] and then falls in again upon itself.
‘ It smells horribly: the earth being all impregnated with
‘ sulphur. There are several vents of wind in the sides of
‘ the hills near this odious bason: which you find to come
‘ out with a good deal of force, if you hold your hand to
‘ the

have made some particular improvements in my travels, which few painters have had an opportunity of doing. The observations, which I heard upon the curious things which we daily viewed, made so deep an impression upon my mind, as I doubt not, will be of great service to me the rest of my life. And I shall never reflect upon them, without remembering at the same time the Gentlemen, to whom I am indebted for them ; as well as for so many instances of kindness and generosity towards me. To which, tho' inclined by their own natural temper and disposition, I have great reason to think, that your good friend
Mr.

* the vent ; and they make more noise than a Smith's bellows..... I am obliged for this note to a very particular friend of mine ; a gentleman of our own country : who has travelled often into Italy, and who (I believe) is much better acquainted with it as classic ground, than any man now living. He had the curiosity in one of his voyages to go to *Nesanto*.'

As a confirmation of the character Mr. SPENCE has given of this Gentleman, it will not be improper to mention his learned *Dissertation* intitled, *PHARSALIA and PHILIPPI ; or the Two Philippi in VIRGIL's Georgics attempted to be explain'd and reconcil'd to History*. 4to. 1741. as likewise another *Dissertation* upon Eight Verses in the *Second Georgic*, beginning *Plantis edurae coryli nascuntur*, &c. v. 65. &c. left in Manuscript corrected with his own hand, which he designed for the press, and which was published in April last. In this short Piece, he has fully vindicated VIRGIL's reputation from the misrepresentations of all the preceding Commentators and Translators ; and given the greatest perspicuity to a passage, which, according to their interpretations, seems full of confusion and absurdities, and made up onely of fine words without truth or common sense.

Mr. HOLDSWORTH took all opportunities of exciting them, by such a persuasive application, as carried a kind of irresistible authority along with it. The true paternal mind, which that Gentleman, whom I take to be about your age, has always manifested towards me, has in a great measure supplied your absence at so vast a distance; and has often secured me from the inconveniencies of pecuniary disappointments, which otherwise, in this strange countrey, might have been attended with exceeding bad consequences. As no man has shewn so tender a regard for me, in all respects, except your-self; so there is none, to whom I find myself affected with sentiments, so nearly resembling that filial piety, which, as peculiarly due to You, will ever possess a superior place in the heart of,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

L E T T E R XXXIX.

To Mr. R.

HONOURED SIR, *Florence, Aug. 28. 1745. N. S.*

ACCORDING to my last, you might justly expect to receive some account of Loretto, Bologna, Ancona, and Venice, before I should send you any of Florence: but as it is not material, with which of these places I begin,

gin, I beg your acceptance of what I here dispatch at present, as an earnest, that the rest shall follow in some reasonable time.

Florence, the capital of Tuscany, is situated in a most delightful valley, surrounded on every side by mountains, except towards Pisa; where a plain extends it-self for above forty miles. On these mountains are dispersed up and down villages, convents, and villas: so that wherever curiosity leads, from every eminence, one enjoys variety of prospects of a most fertile country, abounding in all sorts of fruits, for the necessaries and pleasures of life.----This city is about nine miles in circumference, and is encompassed with a wall of Gothic structure, having six principal gates; Porta S. Gallo, S. Croce, S. Nicolo, S. Pier in Gatolini or Porta Romana, S. Frediano, and Porta del prato; and three small ones, Porta Pinta, S. Miniato, and S. Giorgio. The streets are spacious, and exceeding neat, being paved with great broad stones, called *Pietre forte*.----It is divided into two parts by the river Arno: which in summer flows in a narrow channel; but in winter, being increased by the heavy rains, and the melting of the snows on the mountains, swells to a vast breadth, tears up trees by the roots, and with the greatest rapidity imaginable carries away all before it. To give you an idea of it at that time, I can refer you to no-

thing better than VIRGIL'S * short description of the Po.

Over this river there are four bridges, Ponte alle Grazie, Vecchio, a Santa Trinita, and alla Carraia : of which the third is the most remarkable, built by order of COSMUS I. from the design of BARTOLOMEO AMMANNATI, sculptor and architect. The just proportion and beauty of this bridge distinguish it from all others. It consists onely of three arches, of an oval form ; and has at each end two statues, representing the four Seasons: That of Winter was made by TADDEO LANDINI, and is extraordinary fine.--- The city is commanded by two fortresses, la Fortezza del Belvedere, and di S. Giovanni Battista, vulgarly Fortezza da Basso. It is said to contain 150 Churches, 60 Monasteries, 28 religious Cloisters, 6 Hospitals, 16 for Pilgrims, many Conservatories of poor children, many Oratories, and above a hundred Secular Confraternities, &c. There are likewise near forty palaces of the nobility ; many of which are very grand and magnificent.

The

* *Proluit insano contorquens vortice filvas
Fluviorum rex Eridanus, camposque per omnes
Cum stabulis armenta tulit.* Georg. I. 480, &c.

Then rising in his might, the King of floods
Rusht thro' the forests, tore the lofty woods ;
And rowling onward, with a sweepy sway,
Bore houses, herds, and lab'ring hinds away.

DRYDEN.

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The Metropolitan church is called S. Maria del Fiore, but most commonly *Il Duomo*; begun to be built in the year 1294, by ARNOLFO DI CAMBIO, scholar of CIMABUE, and finished by various successors. The great cupola is the famous work of PHILIPPO DI SER BRUNELLESICO, the beauty of which cannot be sufficiently admired; and on the inside the last Judgement is painted by FREDERICO ZUCCHERI and GIORGIO VASARI. ---- The Body of the church is divided into three isles, to which correspond three tribunes of an octogon form; in each of which are five chapels. Under the cupola, which is octogon, is placed the choir of the same shape, and of the Ionic order, composed of different marble. The columns sustain a very fine freez, and the bases are adorned with Basso-relievos, representing the Prophets, by GIOVANNI DELL OPERA, and other excellent masters. On the altar are three large statues in marble by BACIO BANDINELLI, GOD the Father, with CHRIST dead at his feet, supported by an angel. Behind the altar, there is a *Pietà*, by MICHAEL ANGELO, unfinished. ---- On the right hand, as you enter the church, is the bust of BRUNELLESICO, with the following inscription.

D. S.

QUANTUM PHILIPPUS ARCHITECTUS ARTE DAE
DALAEA VALUERIT CUM HUIUS CELEBERRIMI
TEMPLI MIRA TESTUDO TUM PLURES MACHINAE
DIVINO INGENIO AB EO ADINVENTAE DOCUMEN

L 1 2

TO

TO ESSE POSSUNT QUAPROPTER OB EXIMIAS SUI
ANIMI DOTES SINGULARESQUE VIRTUTES XV^o. KAL.
MAIAS ANNO M.CCCCXLVI. EIUS B.M. CORPUS IN HAC
HUMO SUPPOSITA GRATA PÀTRIA SEPELIRI IVSSIT.

Next to it is the bust of GIOTTO, with this inscription, by the famous POLITIAN.

*Ille ego sum per quem pictura extincta revixit
Cui quàm recta manus tam fuit et facilis
Naturæ deerat nostræ quod defuit arti
Plus licuit nulli pingere nec melius
Miraris turrem egregiam sacro ære sonantem
Hæc quoque de modulo crevit ad astra meo
Denique sum Giotto quid opus fuit illa referre
Hoc nomen longi carminis instar erat.*

OB. AN. MCCCXXXVI CIVES POS. B. M. MCCCCLXXX.

This edifice is in circumference 1280 braccia, in length 260, and in height to the top of the cross 202; the ball 4, and will contain fourteen or fifteen persons. The out side of the church is intirely incrusted with beautiful marble.--- Very near, but not joined to it, stands the campanile or steeple; built by GIOTTO, in height 144 braccia, incrusted likewise on the outside with marble of different colours. The structure of this tower is admirable for its symmetry and strength.

Opposite to the *Duomo* stands the * church of S. GIOVANNI BATTISTA, the only remains of the antiquity of Florence, having been formerly

* This Church BURNET calls "The Baptistery, that stands before it." MISSON gives it the same name. Vol. II. P. I. p. 287.

ly a temple dedicated to MARS. The form of it is octogon, and it is incrusted with various kinds of marble. It has three doors of brass, with figures in alto-relievo, representing stories of the Old and New Testament. Those opposite to the *Duomo* were the work of LORENZO Ghiberti; and are so remarkably fine, that MICHAEL ANGELO said, they were worthy to be the gates of heaven. Over the principal door are three marble statues, representing S. JOHN baptizing; one of which, being the figure of a woman, seems not to be marble: they were begun by SANSOVINO, and finished by VINCENZIO DANTI. Over one of the other two doors, are three brazen statues, by the same, exhibiting the decollation of S. JOHN: and likewise over the other, three more, representing him as disputing with two Pharisees; finely executed by GIOVANNI FRANCESCO RUSTICI. Within the church, are sixteen large pillars of oriental Granite. At the principal gate are two columns of Porphyry, a present from the city of Pisa.

San Giovannino, dedicated to S. JOHN the Evangelist, belongs to the Jesuites, and was built in 1580, from the design of BARTOLOMEO AMMANNATI. The inside is adorned with stucco and pictures; and the second altar on the left hand has a picture of our B. Saviour, and of the Woman of Cana, by ALLESSANDRO ALLORI called IL BRONZINO.

In

In *San Marco*, belonging to the Dominican Friars, there are many pictures, of which these are the principal. On the right, as you enter, at the second altar, S. TOMASO D'AQUINO, with others, before a crucifix; by SANTI DI TITO: at the third altar, *La Madonna and Bambino*, [the B. Virgin and our Saviour] with saints worshipping them; by FRA. BARTOLOMEO DELLA PORTA. On the left, at the first altar, CHRIST'S Transfiguration; by PAGGI LOMBARDO: at the second, S. DOMINICO healing a youth; by PASSIGNANO: at the fourth, S. ANTONIO bearing a cross; by CIGOLI.----The chapel of S. ANTONINO, archbishop of Florence, is adorned with fine marble, worked according to the design of GIOVANNI DI BOLOGNA, and is enriched with statues by FRANCAVILLA, and basso-relievos by FRA. DOMINICO PORTIGIANI; and the small cupola is painted by BRONZINO. Next to this, the chapel of SERRAGLI is the most remarkable for ornaments of painting and sculpture. The cloister of the convent likewise is painted by excellent masters, BERNARDINO POCCETTI, ROSSELLI, and BOSCHI.

The S. S. *Nunziata* or *Annunciata*, possessed by Friars of the order de servi di Maria, has a large square before it designed by BRUNELLESICO; in the middle of which stands an equestrian statue of brass, erected to FERDINAND I. Grand Duke of Tuscany, cast by GIOVANNI DI BOLOGNA,

This

This church has a particular devotion payed to it, on the account of a famous miracle, said to have been wrought here. A painter, whose name is uncertain, being employed in painting the Annunciation, found him-self at a loss how to express the countenance of the Virgin; but having fallen asleep a while, and waking suddenly, to his great surprize, he found the face so nobly and beautifully finished, that it was immediately concluded to be the work of some celestial hand.---- Before you enter the church, you come into a small court or cloister, quite covered with *Votas*; which are small images, or pictures, hung up in remembrance of, and gratitude for, some great or miraculous favour, received by the intercession of the Virgin MARY.---- On the left hand upon the wall, is placed the bust of ANDREA DEL SARTO, with the inscription following.

ANDREÆ SARTIO FLORENTINO
*Pictori celeberr°. qui cū hoc vestibulum
 Pictura tantum nō loquente decorasset
 Ac reliquis hujus vener. templi ornamentis
 Eximie artis suæ ornamenta adjunxisset
 In Deiparam verginem religiosè affectus
 In eo recondi voluit*

FR. LAURENTIUS hujus cænobii Præfectus
*Hoc virtutis illius, et sui patrumque
 Grati animi monumentum P. CIO IO CVI.*

On the walls are painted by him in fresco, the Magi bringing presents, &c. the heads of these figures

figures are noble, the attitudes and drapery excellently performed; and an expression of joy and gladness, futeable to the occasion, and which is perfectly enchanting, is diffused through the whole. The Birth of the Virgin MARY, as likewise all the paintings on the wall on the left, representing the principal actions of S. PHILLIPPO BENIZI, are likewise done by him; both heads and figures finely drawn and expressed. On the other side are painted the Birth of our Saviour, by ALESSIO BALDOVINETTI; the Virgin MARY appearing to S. PHILIPPO, by ROSSELLINI; the Assumption of the Virgin, by Rosso; the Visitation, by PONTORMO; and the Marriage with JOSEPH, by FRANCIABIGIO ---- Immediately, as you enter the church, on the left hand, is the chapel of the *Santissima Nunziata*; on the wall of which is painted her miraculous portrait. This chapel is the design of MICHELOZZO; and is intirely covered with silver plate, jewels, and precious stones: in the fine tabernacle on the altar is the head of our B. Saviour, painted by ANDREA DEL SARTO. ---- The cieling of the church is richly gilded; in the middle is a large picture of the Assumption of the B. Virgin, by VOLTERRANO; and over the cornice round the church, are twelve pictures, representing various miracles, by ULIVELLI. At different altars are many good pieces; particularly the last Judgment, a copy of part of that by MICHAEL AN-

LETTER XXXIX. 265

GELO at Rome, by ALESSANDRO ALLORI. In the chapel of BANDINELLI, there is a dead CHRIST in marble, sustained by God the Father, done by BACCIO BANDINELLI; under which lies his body, with this inscription.

D. O. M.

Bacius Bandinel Divi Jacobi Eques

Sub hac Salvatoris imagine

A se expressa, cum Jacoba Doria

Uxore, quiescit An. S. M. D. LIX.

At the end of the isle, is a large round tribune; the roof of which, containing the Assumption of the B. Virgin, &c. is painted by BALDASSAR FRANCESCHINI, called *Il Volterrano*.----To the cupola corresponds the choir; round which are nine chapels. In the second on the right hand, is the Marriage of S. CATHARINA, painted by BELIVELTI: in the third, a blind man receiving his sight, by PASSIGNANO. In the fifth, which was built at the expence of GIOVANNI BOLOGNA, are statues of much esteem, as likewise basso-relievos in brass, containing the sufferings of our Saviour, and a large crucifix in brass, over the altar, by the same. Three pictures adorn this chapel, one of PAGGI, another of LIGOZZI, and a third of PASSIGNANO. In the sixth chapel, is the Resurrection, by AGNOLO BRONZINO: the head, in profile, of one of the Angels that rolls away the stone, is remarkably fine. In the eighth, is S. MICHAEL, by PIGNONI:

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M m

and

and in the ninth, the Birth of the B. Virgin, by ALLESSANDRO ALLORI.----The large cloister of this convent is painted by ROSSELLI and POCETTI, &c. and over the door is the famous Madonna del facco, reckoned one of the best, and most perfect works of ANDREA DEL SARTO; and is certainly in every respect a most noble picture.---I propose to go through all the most eminent churches, in this manner; and afterwards, the palaces. And if upon revisal I find, that I have omitted any thing material, or committed mistakes, I shall take care to supply the one, and rectify the other, in subsequent letters.

On Friday the 24th was the feast of S. GIOVANNI, which formerly, when the Grand Dukes resided here, was celebrated with great splendor and magnificence: the ceremony of it at present was this. Under the Loggia, which opens towards the Piazza del Grand Duca, was erected a throne of state, and over the chair was placed a large picture of the Emperor. For this day's feast they have five machines or castles, made of wood, and drawn by horses; the principal is that which represents the city of Florence: it rises in different stories to the height of 40 feet, and ends in a pyramid; on the top of which is placed a man clothed in skins to personate S. JOHN Baptist: below there are other figures, and particularly a little boy to represent the same person, almost

almost naked, except where he is covered with skins. This machine, as likewise the other four, that represent Monte Catini, Montópoli, Monte Lupo, and the city of Barga, feuds of the State, are drawn round the piazza, and pass by the throne. A person, that acts the part of the ambassador of Siena, passes by on horse-back, and pays homage by making a speech to the throne. Afterward an infinite number of servants and fellows on horse-back, with each a piece of plate, and *palistis*, or flags, in their hands, to denote the marquisate or land that belongs to their masters. The grand *Pallio* is also carried by, which is a large piece of wrought velvet or gold cloth, which is the prize for the horse-races in the afternoon. The eve of S. JOHN, there are chariot-races in the piazza of S. MARIA Novella, where two *metas* are fixed up for that purpose; and I believe, these races bear some resemblance to the ancient races of the *Circus*.

This account, Sir, having run out into a greater length, than I imagined, I will not extend it at present, even by any short addition, which might serve to excuse it. But to lessen your apprehensions of the tediousness of the remaining part, I shall endeavour to contract it into a narrower compass, in proportion to the matter, than this which is now sent by,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient, &c.

M m 2

LETTER

L E T T E R XL.

To Mr. W. R.

DEAR W.

BEING obliged to dispatch the above-written to my Father, and unwilling to send any blank paper to England ; I shall fill the remainder with a *Postscript*, rather than a Letter, to you ; which I hope he will likewise admit as a kind of *Preface* to my Verses. He had been pleased a good while ago to let me know, that he should be glad to receive a copy of Latin Verses from me, as a proof, that I had not forgotten the little knack of versification, which I had learned at Westminster : intimating, that it would be somewhat strange, if one, who had served more than an apprenticeship to Poetry, should lose all his skill upon Classic Ground. At my parting from him, he enjoined me to retain at least the little knowledge I had of Greek, Latin, and French ; directing me what books to read at my leisure hours for that purpose. And as a proper precaution, that I might not neglect his injunctions as to the two latter languages, he ordered me generally to write, either in the one, or the other. But he said not one word concerning my making any Latin Verses : so that I was not a little surprized, when his demand upon me came at first to my hands ; which hoping he might possibly forget to renew, I took no care to be
any

any better prepared against it. You may well think then, in what perplexity I was, when the Doctor's Letter, about a month ago, brought me a renewal of this demand. However, in obedience to authority, after five years intermission, I sat down, scratching my head, biting my nails, and counting the fingers of my left hand in a double manner, as formerly; and at last, to my great satisfaction, I got through my task. But now, when I am just giving it up, I am under much greater apprehensions, than ever I was at school; as having a greater regard for reputation, and not knowing what consequences may attend this poetical excursion. Then I knew the worst that could follow; and I would gladly now compound upon the same penalty: which I should undergo with the less reluctance, as being a very proper emblem of the common and unavoidable calamity incident to mankind. For what Body Politic is there, where the innocent inferior parts do not frequently suffer for the folly or madness of the head? So that HORACE seems to have spoken, not only historically, but prophetically,

Quicquid delirant Reges, plebuntur Achivi.

Your letter came safe, and shall be answered soon by

Your most affectionate, &c.

EPISTOLA

EPISTOLA XLI.

Romæ, F rid. Non. April. 1742.

DUM procul à patria, ac patrio tutamine, terram,
Quam flavi radit Tibridis unda, colo :

Tantane te, Genitor, cepere oblivia nati,
Cui scriptis animus statve caditve tuis ?

Ut vitulus marcescit agris, quibus invida dextra 5
Absciderit rivum praetereuntis aquae :

Sic

This Poetical Epistle in Latin ought to have been inserted, as LETTER XXI, at p. 82. according to the order of the date. But when that part of the Book was printing off, the Editor was under great uncertainty, whether he should venture the Latin Verses abroad, or not. But having shewed them formerly to several persons, who seemed pleased with them as being written with some spirit; he was the more readily induced to acquiesce very lately in the judgment of an ingenious and learned Gentleman, and good Poet, who was of opinion, that they would be no improper addition at the end of the Volume, as they had a relation to the subjects of several of the preceding LETTERS.

When this was determined, a difficulty arose with respect to those Ladies and Gentlemen, who, tho' having no want either of wit or sense, yet might not understand Latin: in regard to whom, the Editor chose rather to hazard his reputation, as a Translator, than to leave their curiosity

LETTER XLI.

*To Mr. R.**Rome, April 4. 1742.*

WHILE from my native soil at distance far,
 And all the safe-guard of a Parent's care,
 I long reside in that illustrious land,
 Where rapid Tiber rolls his yellow sand :
 Can such oblivion from your breast remove 5
 The once dear object of paternal love ?
 Whose soul, as your Epistles come, or stay,
 Or firmly stands, or sinking fairs away.
 As the young steer, in fields, whence envious hands
 Have drain'd the limpid current, pining stands : 10

So

curiosity unsatisfied. If his endeavours prove acceptable to them, he will be very little concerned at the severity of Critics: the keenness of whose reflections he hopes will be taken off by being exercised on the Translation, and the Original by that means escape with the less damage. No good Latin Poet, he is certain, will think it worth while to criticize the poetical work of a Painter; nor any good-natured indifferent one neither, who considers the circumstances mentioned in LETTER XL; and that it is probably the last piece of the kind that will come from his hand. And how mean an opinion soever any person may entertain of it, he can not justly blame the Author; who never had the least apprehension that it would be published. The whole censure therefore ought to fall upon the Editor; who, not insensible of the justice, having exposed to public view a Picture, as it were in oil colours, drawn by the Author; in order to make it appear the better, has placed just beside it a Copy in black lead, done by him-self.

Sic mihi, cùm placido tua scripta fluentia cursu
Cessârint, corpus debile languor habet.

Saepe animo volvi, quaenam sit causa, veniret
Quòd signata tuâ Littera nulla manu. 10
Ventorum adversas vires, pelagive querebar :
Sed nec ventus erat, nec mare causa morae.
Litterae eorum etenim venere per aequora vectae,
Quos cognata mihi vincula nulla ligant.
Verſo tuas relegens iterumque iterumque ; voluptas 15
Sola levat curas haec repetita meas.
At languent validi, nimiam quibus utimur, arcus ;
Respuit et vulnus triste malagma vetus.

Sed quàm Roma juvat peregrinum fortè requiras,
Artis Apelleae Phidiacaeque domus. 20

Scilicet, et nunc est rerum pulcherrima Roma ;
PALLADIS eximium, non rude MARTIS, opus.

Roma olim stravitque urbes, civesque peremit :
At nunc, quam trepidans horruit, orbis amat.

Jam

Ver. 7, 8. To justify the propriety and the truth of these
two verses, it is necessary to inform the Reader, that the
Letters

L E T T E R XLI. 273

So, when the stream, which from your bounteous source
 Flow'd, in kind *Letters*, with a constant course,
 Is stopp'd ; I feel a faintness at my heart,
 And a dull languor creeps through every part.
 Oft I revolve, what cause I most should blame, 15
 Sign'd by your hand that no kind Letter came:
 Of winds and waves adverse, I oft complain :
 Nor waves, nor winds th' expected mail detain.
 For still from Friends a passage Letters found,
 To me whom ties of no relation bound. 20
 Yours oft I read ; my only pleasure they,
 Repeated oft, my anxious cares allay.
 But strongest bows relax with constant use ;
 And festering wounds emollients old refuse.

But You this plaintive strain, no doubt, will tire ; 25
 Whose curious mind excites you to inquire,
 How Modern Rome delights the Stranger's heart,
 The seat of PHIDIAS' and APELLES' art ?
 No place, like Rome, view all the world around,
 With beauty shines adorn'd, and grandeur crown'd :
 This midst all other cities tow'ring stands,
 Not the rude work of MARS, but PALLAS' hands.
 With fire and sword Old Rome the world annoy'd,
 The cities ravag'd, and the men destroy'd :
 But now the world the place abhorr'd approves ; 35
 And, what it dreaded once, admires, and loves.

VOL. I.

N n

Now

Letters so much commended here for their easy, flowing
 stile, were now and then accompanied with a Bill upon
 Signor BELLONI the Banker.

274 L E T T E R X L I .

Jam cedunt populi, non brachia, saeva ligati 25
Corda ; triumphati nobiliore modo.

Sed quis non lacrymas fundet, si lumina vertat
Huc, ubi pars urbis de bove nomen habet ?
Exponunt quantas eversa palatia clades,
Aurataeque aedes, Caesareaeque domus ! 30
Marmoreae hinc Divûm effigies, ruptisque Colossi
Partibus, hinc longo procubuerunt die.
Barbarus haec potuit ferro rescindere miles ;
Ora nec admirans, nec J O V I S arma timens ?
Heu ! sacris nil parcat opum furiosa cupido ; 35
Artesque exitio sunt alimenta suo.

At tandem decimo cùm sacra tiara L E O N I
Albentes triplici cinxit honore comas ;
Lux repulit tenebras, atque obruta Roma resurgit ;
Et sensim apparent atria, templa, domus. 40
Jam capita ingentes obelisci ad sidera tollunt ;
Atque iterum fluvios pendula tecta ferunt.
Romani incipiunt vultusque animosque feroces
Mollire, et studiis invigilare novis.
Exuitur cassis : jam cedunt artibus arma : 45
Atque tudes, plùs quàm tela, vibrare juvat.
In cultra excisus pictoria vertitur ensis ;
Fucati et scuti dulcior usus erat.
Agricola exesos scabrâ rubigine truncos
Nobile P R A X I T E L I S vomere pulsât opus. 50

Civis

L E T T E R XLI. 275

Now people yield, their hearts, not hands, inchain'd ;
And o'er their minds a nobler triumph gain'd.

But who can tears restrain, that turns his eyes
Where now the *Campo* call'd *Vaccino* lyes ? 40
What ruinous scenes fall'n palaces unfold,
Mansions of Cefars, radiant once with gold !
Of Gods here statues, there Colosses found,
That, broken, rusted ages under ground.
Could barbarous Goths such forms in fragments spread,
Jove's face admire not, nor his thunder dread ? 46
But nothing sacred 's safe from lust of gain ;
And arts most exquisite are their own bane.

But when exalted on the Papal Throne
LEO's grey hairs with triple honours shone ; 50
Light chas'd the gloom, and Rome o'erwhelm'd arose,
Disclosing Temples, Domes, and Porticoes.
Their heads to heav'n-vast Obelisks now rear ;
Again swift rivers pendent fabrics bear.
The Romans now, to studies new inclin'd, 55
Soften the fierceness of their air and mind.
The helmet 's lay'd aside : arms yield to arts ;
And mallets brandish'd shake much more than darts.
The shield diminish'd, and the shorten'd sword,
The Pallet, and the Pallet-knife afford. 60
As oft the Plowman turns the furrow'd dust,
The trunks of statues, long deform'd with rust,
Struck by the share, to light once more are brought ;
The noble works PRAXITELES had wrought.

Civis et attonitus, magnis effossa ruinis,
 Nunc stupet Heroum, nunc simulacra Deum.
 Non marmor, non vena capit pretiosa metalli
 Lumina; materies vincitur arte manûs.

LAOCOONTA videns quis non in mente dolores 55
 Sentit, et horrendos percipit aure sonos:

Dum manibus tendit serpentum avellere nodos;
 Torquet et in curvos saucia membra situs?

Quis non det gemitum, verbis quando ARRIA PAETO
 Praestat in extremis heu! moritura fidem? 60

Cum natos deflet NIOBE, nataeque peremptas;
 Et minimam, frustra provida, veste tegit?

Quis referat magnos artus, magna ossa, lacertosque
 HERCULIS; aut Paphiae mollia membra Deae?

Quis DIRCEN victam furibundi ad cornua tauri? 65
 Semanimes vultus quis, CLEOPATRA, tuos?

Arcum intendentis quis dicat APOLLINIS ora;
 Aut, vibraturi flammea tela, JOVIS?

Hinc viget ille tuis, RAPHAEL divine, figuris
 Spiritus; hinc dulcis gratia, GUIDO, tuis. 70

ANNIBAL hinc, audaxque manu BONAROTA gigantum
 Corpora, et expressit grandia membra Deum.

Vos

Ver. 55. A statue in the Belvedere. *Ver. 59.* In the Lodovician Villa. *Ver. 61.* In the gardens of the Villa Medici. *Ver. 63.* In the great court of the Farnese palace. *Ver. 64.* The famous VENUS of Medici at Florence. *Ver. 65.* In the great Farnese palace. *Ver. 66.* In the Villa Medici. *Ver. 67.* The famous APOLLO of the Belvedere. *Ver. 68.* In the Verospi palace.

Ver. 69. RAFAELLE SANCIO DA URBINO, born in 1483, lived at Florence and Rome, died in 1520.

LETTER XLI. 277

The Citizen beholds with vast surprize 65
 Heroes, and Gods, from ancient ruins rise.
 Nor marble, brass, nor gold attracts the sight;
 Art far more precious gives more high delight.

Who sees LAOCOON, and not feels his pains,
 Nor in his ears the horrid sounds retains; 70
 While to untwist the serpents knots he tries,
 And in curve forms his wounded members plies?
 Who sighs not; when the last words strike his ear,
 Which dying ARRIA's faith to PAETUS bear?
 When NIOBE bewails her off-spring slain, 75
 And with her robe the youngest screens in vain?
 Who can describe th' HERCULEAN joints, bones, arms?
 Or, VENUS, half the softness of thy charms?
 Who, DIRCE to the bull, in vengeful bands,
 Fast ty'd by ZETHUS' and AMPHION's hands? 80
 Or CLEOPATRA's languid limbs compos'd
 With decent art, and eyes by death half clos'd?
 The mien of JOVE or PHOEBUS who can show,
 When that his thunder aims, or this his bow?

Hence RAPHAEL's Spirit strikes with force divine;
 Hence, GUIDO, sweet enchanting Grace is thine. 86
 CARACCI hence, hence ANGELO's bold art
 Vast forms to Giants, and to Gods, impart.

O happy

Ver. 70. GUIDO RENI, born 1575. Scholar of DENIS CALVERT and the Carraches, lived at Bologna and Rome, excelled in History, died in 1642, aged 67.

Ver. 71. ANNIBAL CARACCI, born in 1560, Scholar of LODOVICO CARACCI, lived at Bologna and Rome, excelled in History, died in 1609, aged 49.

Ver. 72. MICHAEL ANGELO BUONAROTI, born 1474. lived at Florence and Rome, died in 1564.

278 L E T T E R X L I .

Vos ô felices ! imitati talia ! digni

Divorum aspectu colloquioque frui !

Me quoque raptat amor vestra inclyta signa sequendi ; 75

Et Capitolini scandere saxa jugi.

Haec mea militia est.—Procul ô, procul ite Camenae :

JAM TERITUR NOSTRIS AREA MAJOR EQUIS.

EXPLANATION of Plate IV. representing
a prospect of Mount VESUVIUS

1. **T**HE southern summit, out of which the fire proceeds.
2. The northern summit, commonly called the *Mount of Somma*.
3. The winding range of rocks on the north.
4. The valley between the two summits, called *Atrio*.
5. The new opening on the side, where the fiery torrent burst out.
6. The first opening, commonly called *The Plain*.
7. The course, which the last fiery torrent took.
8. The Chapel of JANUARIUS.
9. The hill, on which stands the Convent, called the *Wilderness, of the Camalduli*.
10. The Church of S. MARY of Apulia.
11. *Retina*.
12. *Portici*.
13. *Leucopetra* or *Pietra Bianca*.
14. Village of S. SEBASTIAN.
15. Village of *Massa*.
16. Village of *Tochlea*.
17. Village of *Barna*.
18. Village of *Terdugio*.
19. A fort built lately for the security of the coast.
20. The *Mill-towers*.
21. The bridge over the mouth of the *Sebeto*.
22. The extremity of the eastern suburb of *Naples*.
23. Part of the *basin* or bay of *Naples*.
24. The *Eighth Tower*, or *Torre del Greco*, near and under which *Herculaneum* lies.

O happy You! such grand designs to trace,
 And talk with Powers Celestial face to face. 90
 Me too the love of Art, with strong desires
 To march beneath your glittering banners, fires;
 Till I the Capitol in triumph climb.
 This is my warfare: this my aim sublime.
 Muses farewell—Flie hence, far hence away— 95
 O'er your bleak mountains I'll no longer stray.
 Before my steeds a spacious champion lyes;
 And my wheels kindle at a richer prize.

EXPLANATION of Plate V. representing
 a Section of the two Summits of Mount VESUVIUS.

1. **T**HE summit, out of which the fire proceeds.
2. The bason or gulf, as it appears since the last eruption.
3. The easy declivity on the eastern side, by which one may descend to the bottom of the bason.
4. The western declivity steep and precipitious.
5. View of the inside of the bason, which is all burned, and covered with pendent rocks.
6. The bottom of the bason, partly inaccessible, as being fit to contain rain-water; partly interrupted by large cracks and holes, almost continually exhaling smoke.
7. The other summit towards the north.
8. The northern rocks, which partly encompass the fiery summit.

E R R A T A.

- P. 38. l. 9. read pieces of Granite.
 39. l. 13. — of a stone called *Travertino*.
 l. 23. — silver busts as big, and some much bigger than the life.
 42. l. 12. — the *La villeggiatura*.
-

The End of the FIRST VOLUME.

I have just received your letter of the 10th inst. and am glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present, but I thought I would mention a few things. I have been thinking much lately of the future and of the many things that are to befall us. I feel that I must be prepared for whatever may come, and I must strive to be a good man and a good citizen. I hope that you are doing the same. I am, dear friend, ever your sincere friend and affectionate brother.

LETTER XIII

I have just received your letter of the 15th inst. and am glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present, but I thought I would mention a few things. I have been thinking much lately of the future and of the many things that are to befall us. I feel that I must be prepared for whatever may come, and I must strive to be a good man and a good citizen. I hope that you are doing the same. I am, dear friend, ever your sincere friend and affectionate brother.

LETTER XIV

I have just received your letter of the 20th inst. and am glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present, but I thought I would mention a few things. I have been thinking much lately of the future and of the many things that are to befall us. I feel that I must be prepared for whatever may come, and I must strive to be a good man and a good citizen. I hope that you are doing the same. I am, dear friend, ever your sincere friend and affectionate brother.

LETTER XV

I have just received your letter of the 25th inst. and am glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present, but I thought I would mention a few things. I have been thinking much lately of the future and of the many things that are to befall us. I feel that I must be prepared for whatever may come, and I must strive to be a good man and a good citizen. I hope that you are doing the same. I am, dear friend, ever your sincere friend and affectionate brother.

APPENDIX.

PAGE 39. l. 13. They are not built intirely of Italian marble, but of a stone called *Travertino* : the infides indeed in general are lay'd all over with the fineft marble ; and the roofs supported with pillars, that are either intirely of marble, or inlayed with it.

Line 23. "Silver images as big as the life;" read Silver bufts as big, and fome much bigger than the life : the only intire filver image I ever faw is that of S. IONATIUS LOYOLA, at the famous altar in the church of the Jefuites; which ftatue I take to be three times bigger than the life.

P. 42. l. 12. "*Il villegiare*," read *La villegiatura*.

P. 55. l. 9. *Il fole*, the fun.

P. 77. l. 4. Mufic and Drawing ought to be attributed to the CHEVALIER's eldeft Son.

P. 84. l. 12. "The *virtù*." Courage being esteem'd the greateft perfection by the old Romans, went under the name of *Virtus* in general ; as the modern *Italians* give the fame name [*Virtù*] to the knowledge of curiofities. ADDISON's *Dialogues on ancient medals*, p. 37.

P. 130. Infcription marked H. *For his Freed-men and Family Lucius Arruntius, fon of Lucius, of the Terentine Tribe.*

(I.) See the next page, line 28.

(K.) Hortenfia Felicitas made this, for Veneria, her moft dear daughter, who lived eleven years, nine months, and twenty days.

(L.) To the Gods Manes : to Min. Dia Ifmyrna, Cranius of Corinth, [erected this] to one who well deferved of him.

VOL. I.

(M.) Lu.

(M.) Lucius Arruntius Anencletus, for himself, his son, and his wife, built [this.]

(N.) To Lucius Arruntius Moschus. He lived nineteen years, five days; Attalus and Helene, his parents, built [this] for their most pious son, and for themselves.

(O.) Eglogle the Freed-woman of Lucius Arruntius Hilas: is lived thirty years.

(P.) To the Gods Manes of Thallus: he lived four years, four months, and eight days. Antiochus and Thallusa, his parents, erected [this] to their dear son; and to Antiochus their most kindly affectioned son, who lived eight years, eleven months, and twenty seven days.

(Q.) Arruntia Secunda the freed-woman of Lucius lived forty years.

P. 131. (S.) To Viliæ [Vitelliæ] Clymene Aulus Vitellius Anthus and Florus made [this] for his dearest and well-deserving Wife.

To the Gods [Manes]: to Aulus Vitellius Anthus, Vitellius Romanus of the Colony Vitellia Anatoie, placed this for his well-deserving Freed-man.

P. 132. Inscriptions in the third Copper-plate.

To the Gods Manes: for Arruntia Hermione, Arruntius Hermias the father, and Hermes the foster-father, built [this] and for themselves and their posterity.

To the Gods Manes: Niceros erected [this] for Arruntia Flora his well-deserving wife, for himself, and their posterity.

P. 133. To the Gods Manes of Successus, her well-deserving and most pious brother, his sister Primigenia built this.

Your sister and your heir, for seven long years
I pay'd the mournful tribute of my tears:
To Stygian gloom I now am snatch'd from light,
And this cold marble hides by bones from sight.

Dear

*Dear Sister, cease to wail me in the tomb :
To this dark place e'en Kings themselves must come.*

P. 183. l. 5. *Add, These sudden deaths indeed sometimes happen, tho' not from any infection by opening the ground in seed-time, or any vapour rising from it in harvest ; but from the excessive heat of the sun beating violently upon the labourers.*

P. 202. l. 22.

*We saw, push'd backward to his native source,
The yellow Tiber roll his rapid course.* FRANCIS.

P. 206. *To Marcus Nonius Balbus, the son of Marcus, Prætor, Proconsul, the Herculaniensians [erected this].*

P. 209. *To Domitia, the daughter of Cneus, wife of Domitianus Cæsar : by the decree of the Decurions.*

P. 232. l. 5. " and enmity of deceitful friends." Then follow in the first Edition almost four pages, relating to the dissensions and animosities among the English Painters, &c. at Rome : which having since happily subsided into the most perfect harmony among them, according to the Author's account in his LXXIV Letter, he expressly ordered those four pages to be omitted in this new Edition.

P. 242. LETTER XXXII in the first Edition is placed in this after the XXXVI, and numbered XXXVII.

P. 244. l. i. r. which are at least thirty feet high.

P. 259, 260. *Sacred to GOD. How much Philip the Architect excelled in the art of building, both the wonderful dome of this most famous Church, and many more structures, invented and contrived by him with divine ingenuity, may serve as a sufficient proof. Wherefore, on the account of the extraordinary endowments and singular virtues of his mind, his grateful countrey, on the 17th of April*

April 1446, ordered the body of him, who deserved so well, to be buried in this ground beneath.

P. 260. Epitaph on Giotto by the famous Politian.

*I'm He, by whom, for many ages dead,
Painting reviv'd, and rais'd her radiant head.
Whose hand expert, to Nature always true,
With equal quickness and exactness drew.
She saw her charms express'd in every part;
And her wants onely wanting to my art.
Of all th' illustrious Artists known before,
None painted better, or e'er painted more.
The Tow'r, that sounds with sacred brass, admir'd,
Rais'd by my model, to the stars aspir'd.
Giotto I'm call'd: 'twas needless to rehearse
All this: my Name exceeds a train of Verse.*

P. 263. To Andrea del Sarto of Florence; who, when he had adorned this Cloister with paintings which almost speak, and to the rest of the ornaments of this venerable Church had added the ornaments of his egregious art, being religiously affected towards the Virgin Mother of God, was very desirous to be interred therein.

Fr. Laurentius, the Abbot of this monastery, erected this Monument of his virtue, and of his own and of the rest of these Fathers grateful mind MDCVI.

P. 265. To GOD the most excellent and most mighty Being. Baccio Bandinelli, knight of the order of S. James, together with his wife Jaquet Doria, rests, under this image of our Saviour, carved by himself.



The

The BALANCE of PAINTERS,

By Monsieur DU PILES.

THE method I have taken is this: I divide my weight into twenty parts, or degrees. The twentieth degree is the highest, and implies *sovereign perfection*; which no man has fully arrived at. The nineteenth is the highest degree that we know, but which no person has yet gained. And the eighteenth is, for those who, in my opinion, have come nearest to perfection; as the lower figures are for those who appear to be further from it.

I have past my judgment only on the most noted painters, and in the ensuing Catalogue have divided the chief parts of the art into four columns; to wit, *Composition*, *Design*, *Colouring*, and *Expression*. By *Expression* I mean not the character of any particular object, but the general thought of the understanding. And thus against each painter's name, we see his degree of merit in all the aforesaid four Divisions.

We might introduce among the most noted painters, several Flemings, who have very faithfully shewn truth of nature, and been excellent colourists: but we thought it better to set them by themselves; because their taste was bad in other parts of the art.

It now only remains to be observed, that as the essential parts of painting consist of many other parts, which the same masters have not equally possessed; 'tis reasonable to set one against another, in order to make a fair judgment. Thus for instance, *Composition* arises from two parts; viz. *Invention* and *Disposition*. Now a paint-

ter may possibly be capable of inventing all the objects proper to a good Composition, and yet not know how to dispose them, so as to produce a great effect. Again, in *Design*, there is a taste and correctness; and a picture may have one of them only, or else both may appear jointly, but in different degrees of goodness; and by comparing one with another we may make a general judgment on the whole.

For the rest: I am not so fond of my own sentiments as to think they will not be severely criticized: but I must give notice, that in order to criticize judiciously, one must have a perfect knowledge of all the parts of a piece of painting, and of the reasons which make the whole good; for many judge of a picture only by the part they like, and make no account of those other parts, which either they do not understand, or do not relish.

N A M E S O F P A I N T E R S.

ALBANO.
Barocchio.
Baffano (Jacomio).
Belino (John).
Bourdon.
Le Brun.
The Carracches.
Da Caravaggio (Polydore).
Correggio.
Da Cortona (Pietro).
Diepembeck.
Dominichino.
Durer (Albert).
Giorgione.
Gioseppino.

<i>Composition.</i>	<i>Design.</i>	<i>Colouring.</i>	<i>Expression.</i>
14	14	10	6
14	15	6	10
6	8	17	
4	6	14	
10	8	8	4
10	16	8	16
15	17	13	13
10	17		15
13	13	15	12
16	14	12	6
11	10	14	6
15	17	9	17
8	10	10	8
8	9	18	4
10	10	6	2
Guerchino			

Guerchino.	18	10	10	4
Holbein (Hans).	9	10	16	13
Jordano (Luca).	13	12	9	6
Jourdaens (James).	10	8	16	6
Lanfranco.	14	13	10	5
Van Leyden (Lucas).	8	6	6	4
Michael Angelo Buonarrotti.	8	17	4	8
Michael Angelo da Caravaggio.	6	6	16	
Mutiano.	6	8	15	4
Palma the elder.	5	6	16	
Palma the younger.	12	9	14	6
Parmesan.	10	15	6	6
Penni (Francisco) il Fattore.		15	8	
Del Piombo (Baptista).	8	13	16	7
Perugino (Pietro).	4	12	10	4
Pordenon.	8	14	17	5
Pourbus.	4	15	6	6
Pouffin.	15	17	6	15
Primaticcio.	15	14	7	10
Rembrant.	15	6	17	12
Reni (Guido).		13	9	12
Romano (Julio).	15	16	4	14
Rubens.	18	13	17	17
Salviati (Francisco).	13	15	8	8
Santio (Raphael).	17	18	12	18
Del Sarto (Andrea).	12	16	9	8
Le Seur.	15	15	4	15
Teniers.	15	12	13	6
Testa (Pietro).	11	15		6
Tintoret.	15	14	16	4
Titian.	12	15	18	6
Del Vago (Pierino).	15	16	7	6
Vandyke.	15	10	17	13
Vanius.	13	15	12	3
De Udine (John).	10	8	16	3
Veronese (Paolo Cagliari).	15	10	16	3
Venus (Otho).	13	14	10	10
Da Vinci (Leonardo).	15	16	4	4
Da Volterra (Daniele).	12	15	5	8
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